

Brown

Commencement '09: The Remarkable Lives of Four Seniors
Why So Many Hot New Poker Pros Come From Brown

July/August 2009 \$3.95

Alumni Magazine

The Truth About Hip-Hop

Tricia Rose '93 PhD
is emerging as **one of**
America's best young
cultural guides.



“I’m convinced that what I’m saying is in the spirit of love and possibility, and if you can’t see it, I love you anyway. **Page 22**”

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A Last Look Before September kicks off a whole new sports year, we review the best of 2008–09. *By Gordon Morton ’93*

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Pin Pals Before class ball caps, alumni wore reunion badges.



BROWN: THE MOVIE This summer’s *Away We Go* includes no fewer than five alums, including star John Krasinski ’01. **PAGE 44**

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22 It’s All About Love

Hip-hop began as an expression of the hopes and fears of the inner-city poor. Then greed and violence corrupted it. It’s a story that Tricia Rose, one of the first scholars to study hip-hop, believes has much to teach us about our culture and how we treat one another. **By Beth Schwartzapfel ’01**

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How a group of students went from playing poker in the basement of Faunce House to winning millions as pros. **By C. Ryan Goldberg ’05**

36 Against All Odds: Success Stories

Profiles of four graduates who ran into overwhelming obstacles and beat the odds—testament to the transformative power of a Brown education and the generous heart of the students at its center. **By Lawrence Goodman**

The Antihero

THE NEWS ON JUNE 20 THAT DAVID ROHDE '90 HAD ESCAPED HIS Taliban captors in Afghanistan was a relief and a joy. Rohde, a reporter for the *New York Times*, had been taken hostage by a Taliban leader on November 10 of last year, and at the request of the paper any mention of his kidnapping seemed to be confined to obscure, little-trafficked websites. Even Wikipedia deleted any mention of the kidnapping that would crop up in Rohde's entry there.

Rohde spoke to *Times* staff on July 1, accompanied by Tahir Ludin, the Afghan reporter who had been seized with him, and by his wife, Karen Mulvihill '91, who had worked so hard to get them released. Rohde said little about himself that day, choosing instead to praise Ludin's heroism and to remark, "I cemented my position as the worst newlywed husband ever."

The reference was to how quickly after his wedding Rohde had been kidnapped. He married Mulvihill—to whom he was introduced by mutual friend Marcello Picone '90—on September 6, and was captured a mere nine weeks later. The report of their wedding appeared in the BAM's January/February class notes, which means I read it only after I'd learned of his fate. I remember muttering aloud in my empty office, "Oh, no!"

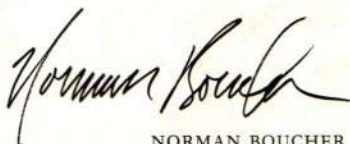
I spent a day with Rohde in New York City during the fall of 1997 profiling him for this magazine. Two years before, while working for the *Christian Science Monitor*, he had snuck into Srebrenica, Bosnia, and found a human leg protruding from freshly turned ground, the first real evidence of the massacre of 7,000 Bosnians there. His reporting won him a Pulitzer Prize, and when I visited him his excellent book about Bosnia, *Endgame: The Betrayal and Fall of Srebrenica, Europe's Worst Massacre Since World War II*, had just been published.

We took a cab to Queens that day so he could report a story for the paper's metro section. At the *Times*, a Pulitzer did not exempt him from the beginner's stint at metro, and in 1997 Rohde was doing night cops: every half hour from 7 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. his job was to call the police department's public-information officer and ask if anything had happened. If something had, he went out and covered the story.

On the day we spent together, he was using his off time to check out other stories. Traveling around the city, he had lately been noticing an unusual number of young people hanging around neighborhood streets in wheelchairs. These, he discovered, were victims of street violence, and in Queens he had an appointment to interview a young woman paralyzed from the waist down by a stray bullet that had found her head. Rohde was quiet, unassuming, empathetic, and soon the woman began to open up to him. After the shooting, she told Rohde, "I was angry for four-and-a-half years." Then she realized, "I'm injured, not dead."

As we travelled around the city that day talking about his experiences in Bosnia, Rohde cautioned me against romanticizing what he'd done. "Please don't make too much of what I did in Bosnia," he said. "I think it would have been more dangerous to be looking for a grave in Mississippi in 1960 than in Bosnia in 1995."

Rohde never wants the story to be about him, but his bravery, modesty, and integrity are a reminder of what journalism at its best can still be.



NORMAN BOUCHER
Editor & Publisher

Brown Alumni Magazine

EDITOR & PUBLISHER
NORMAN BOUCHER

ART DIRECTOR
LISA A. SERGI

MANAGING EDITOR
CHARLOTTE BRUCE HARVEY '78

SENIOR WRITER
LAWRENCE GOODMAN

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
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INTERNS
IRENE CHEN '09, SUSAN KOVAR '09,
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“We should be
driven by ethics as
principles, not rules
to be exploited for
what you can or
cannot get away
with.”

—Jean L.P. Brunel, CFA



Jean L.P. Brunel, CFA

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**ETHICS
TENACITY
RIGOR
ANALYTICS**

GOODBYE, COLUMBUS

THE FACULTY HAS DECIDED TO REPU-
diate the body of work of the man
described by Samuel Eliot Morison
as perhaps the greatest navigator in
history by refusing to celebrate his
memory ("Goodbye, Columbus,"
Elms, May/June). Morison, Ameri-
ca's foremost naval historian, wrote
in his Pulitzer Prize-winning biogra-
phy, *Christopher Columbus: Admiral of
the Ocean Sea*, that, while it had been
well-established since Ptolemy that the
earth was round, before Columbus "no
other sailor had the persistence, the
knowledge, and the sheer guts to sail
thousands of miles into the unknown
ocean until he found land."

Of the voyage of 1492, Morison
wrote: "This was the most spectacu-
lar and most far-reaching geographical
discovery in recorded human history."
To be consistent and avoid accusations
of hypocrisy, the faculty should now
repudiate other great men whose
accomplishments have similarly been
defiled by their involvement with slav-
ery. The faculty should vote to refuse

ty's next bold stroke of mature and
thoughtfully considered scholarship.

DANTE G. IONATA '59

Providence

ionata@cox.net

THE DECISION OF THE BROWN FACULTY
to change the name of Columbus
Day to Fall Weekend
misses the point. The
issue is not Christo-
pher Columbus.
While some may
feel that the day is
poorly named, it is,
nevertheless, like St.
Patrick's Day, Israel
Independence Day,
von Steuben Day,
Greek Independence
Day, Martin Luther
King Day, Puerto
Rican Day, and Kos-
ciuszko Day, a day of ceremony,
parades, and ethnic pride for a large
segment of American society. If the
Brown faculty really felt compelled to
make a change, rather than run the risk

NOW THAT COLUMBUS DAY WEEKEND
has become Fall Weekend, we should
rename Brown University as All Seasons
University. John Brown and Christopher
Columbus were notable men of their
times, but most importantly they were
men of their times. Renaming our Uni-
versity might please a diverse array of

"hyphenated Ameri-
cans"—African Amer-
icans of all ages, older
Italian Americans, and
Native Americans, to
name a few.

ALAN BALBONI

'73 PhD

Las Vegas

alan.balboni@csn.edu

I APPLAUD THE UNI-
versity's decision to
rename their October
weekend Fall Week-

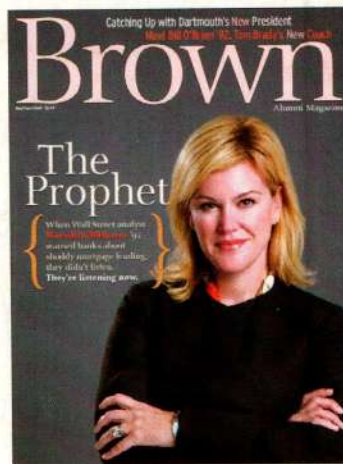
end. Clearly, the moniker Columbus
Day isn't going away from popular
culture anytime soon, but it's good to
see that new efforts have rightly been
made to correct the false notion that
Christopher Columbus was some sort
of hero.

Providence's Mayor David Cicil-
line '83 may feel that the move suffers
from political correctness, but he would
probably be singing a different tune
were he of Native American descent.
Then again, Cicilline is most likely not
aware of the little-known fact that his-
torians aren't even sure that Colum-
bus was Italian to begin with! He may
have been Italian, but it is also possible
that he was Catalan, Portuguese, or
Spanish. Scientists are currently test-
ing the DNA of people with variants of
the name Columbus who live in these
areas to try to determine Columbus's
true nationality.

MAIA WEINSTOCK '99

Brooklyn, N.Y.

IT WOULD BE EASY TO DISMISS BOTH THE
faculty's rejection of Columbus Day
and the angry reaction of some to that



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

» THE BAM WELCOMES LETTERS FROM ITS READERS. Although we cannot publish every letter we receive, we try to represent every letter writer's point of view. More letters can sometimes be found at brownalumnimagazine.com. » Letters may be edited for clarity, usage, and length, and must refer to content in the maga-
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to honor the memory and the attain-
ments of George Washington on Presi-
dents' Day on the grounds that he was
a slaveholder. And I am sure the fac-
ulty will further demonstrate its bril-
liant scholarship by refusing to honor
the memory and the achievements of
the author of the Declaration of Inde-
pendence and the principal author
of the Constitution, both of whom
also owned slaves. I await the facul-

of antagonizing thousands of Italian
American alumni, including the mayor
of Providence, perhaps it could have
renamed the day for Garibaldi. Brown,
perhaps unfairly, tends to get tagged
as a hotbed of political correctness,
but this is truly political correctness
gone berserk!

ROBERT M. WIGOD '54

New York City

rwigod@aol.com

rejection as street theater, but for me, the interesting part of the story was that "Brown students and staff will continue to get the day off." Did no one say, "Enough with the holidays—let's get back to work?"

DAVID DUMAS '64
East Greenwich, R.I.
david.dumas@verizon.net

BOTH LAWRENCE GOODMAN AND PROFESSOR of Chemistry Gerald Diebold should know better than to attribute Brown University's name to John Brown rather than to his nephew Nicholas

EDWARD MAHANEY-WALTER '05
McLean, Va.
emahaney@gmail.com

RETURNING HOME

I RECEIVED MY MASTER'S DEGREE IN geology from Brown in 1949, but was unable to attend my graduation ceremony because I was working in Alaska at that time. After half a century, I returned to Brown for the first time to celebrate my fiftieth reunion in May 1999.

Rhode Island Hall, the site of so many happy memories of my lectures, studies, friendships, and adventures, was first on my list ("Marking Time," Finally, May/June). When I reached the front of the building, I paused to admire its handsome and imposing entrance. Just at that moment, a gentleman on his way into the building spotted my fiftieth-reunion hatband and my wistful expression and stopped to offer me assistance.

It was Dean Robert Ripley who, upon learning of my connection to Rhode Island Hall, graciously offered to give me a guided tour of my old haunts. Aside from ground-floor renovations, the upper former geology rooms appeared mostly intact. There was the spacious lecture room where Professor Alonzo Quinn had once rescued me from a large glass exhibit case in which I had been rearranging some specimens when a prankster closed and locked the door. And then there was the balcony and my cubicle, where I had

THE BUZZ ONLINE

BY FAR THE MOST NOTABLE RECENT COMMENT POSTED AT THE BAM WEBSITE came in response to a letter in the May/June BAM from Associate Professor of Medicine Robert S. Crausman '85, '88 MD. In it, Crausman referred to the infamous 1996 sexual misconduct case involving Adam Lack '97 and Sara Klein '99, in which the University Disciplinary Committee found Lack guilty of "nonconsensual physical contact of a sexual nature." Lack was sentenced to a six-month suspension, but, upon appeal to the provost, the charge was lowered to "serious issues of personal and sexual conduct" and the sentence became two semesters of probation.

What happened next was much worse. The case helped ignite a scorching episode in the U.S. culture wars and an inferno of sexual politics. Lack soon found himself on the front page of the *Chronicle of Higher Education* and the focus of a John Stossel report on 20/20. Lack sued Klein and Brown, and the whole mess was finally settled in a confidential court settlement.

Lack died last July in a one-car crash.

In his letter noting Lack's death, Crausman wrote that Lack "brought much-needed attention to the profound discretionary power of the administration over the campus disciplinary system and to the importance of respecting students' civil rights. His experience at Brown raised difficult questions that challenged us all."

William Lack, Adam's brother and a surgical resident in Iowa City (william-lack@uiowa.edu), responded at brownalumnimagazine.com: "Dr. Crausman makes several worthy comments regarding the sexual misconduct case involving Adam Lack. As Adam's little brother, I witnessed most of the fallout from the controversy while a high school student in Osage, Iowa. I would like to add my personal perspective on my older brother, who was also my mentor, my compass.

"I am not a Brown alumnus, but now that Adam is deceased, I would like to enter a comment in his stead. Adam was and will remain a gentle and thoughtful soul who entered Brown with an innocent mentality that he never recovered. He did, however, manage to complete his degree, despite

**I am not a Brown alumnus, but now
that Adam Lack '97 is deceased, I would like to
enter a comment in his stead.**

-WILLIAM LACK

unsettling odds, and he had managed to move on prior to his tragic death. It was particularly trying for someone of Adam's ethic (you would have to know him) to weather the storm of personal attacks that came his way.

"In addition, since attending Brown he'd lost not only his father to cancer—Adam cared for him at home—but also two of his closest personal friends: Ray Rocha '95 (incinerated on 9/11 on the 105th floor of One World Trade Center) and Dimi Gavriel '97 (killed as a Marine corporal in Fallujah, Iraq).

"I wish only that they can all be in peace together now. I will continue to live my life as I have since birth, attempting to emulate the man who was there for family, friends, and strangers alike. I will always wish to be just slightly more like my big brother."

At age fourteen I contracted polio at a Boy Scout camp and spent ten days in an iron lung.... Catherine Wolf '72 AM, '74 PhD is now my pin-up girl.

-BOB GOODWIN '52

labored into the night with a nearby graduate student.

I am glad that I was able to "return home again." The façade (circa 1840) will remain, but the ancient interior space will vanish. The old ceiling joists will be fashioned into benches, which will at least provide some continuity when I rest on these and reminisce during my next visit to Rhode Island Hall.

DANIEL B. KRINSLEY '49 SCM
Washington, D.C.

THANKS, BROWN

I JUST FINISHED READING THE MAY/JUNE BAM and was overwhelmed by how much I appreciate what Brown did for me, does for students, and aspires to be. I loved the stories about grad students studying oral histories in the Fox Point Neighborhood ("Everyday History"). In addition, the piece about Brown's choice to develop an independent bookstore with a local coffee vendor demonstrates how the University embraces cultural, social, and environmental concepts of sustainability ("Latte with That Novel?," Elms). Brown chose the option that promoted community, and the bookstore's apparent success demonstrates that sustainability can be accomplished without economic loss.

I further read "Since Last Time" (Elms) about Brown curtailing its carbon emissions by eight percent last year. It's a small increment toward zero emissions, but a major signal to alums that Brown maintains an interest in climate change.

Finally, the establishment of the fund for the Education of Children of Providence, and the addition of ten MAT graduates committed to teach-

ing urban schools, seems such a positive response to come out of the University Steering Committee's report on slavery and justice ("Since Last Time," Elms).

As an academic, I have been affiliated with numerous universities since graduating, and one thing always seems to set Brown apart: the University takes actions that demonstrate it cares about its students and its community. That makes me proud to be affiliated with my alma mater.

KAREN KOHFELD '90
Vancouver, Canada

The writer is assistant professor and Canada Research Chair for Climate, Resource, and Global Change at Simon Fraser University.

COUNTING BLESSINGS

AT AGE FOURTEEN I CONTRACTED POLIO at a Boy Scout camp and spent ten days in an iron lung. I later qualified for a regular NROTC scholarship in its ini-

Catherine Wolf '72 AM, '74 PhD, ("I Will Be Heard!" March/April), I count my continuing good health among my blessings. Catherine is now my pin-up girl. I include her in my daily prayers. I trust God to continue to give her the perseverance and fortitude to make every day a positive experience with such an amazing effort!

BOB GOODWIN '52
Jacksonville, Fla.

RECROSSING THE GOD DIVIDE

THANK YOU FOR PUBLISHING THE PIECE about the similarities that exist between liberal and conservative students in today's strained, faith-divided society ("Crossing the God Divide," March/April).

Too often we close our minds to the world around us and the possibility that people of such different beliefs might be struggling with the same day-to-day issues. As a Bible-believing Christian, I applaud the adventuresome curiosity of Kevin Roose '09. He is an inspiration, and I hope that others will use his compassionate report on the student life at Liberty as an example to open their minds to the value of faith in God.

AUBREY MEADOR '82
Mebane, N.C.

aubrey@arcatechsystems.com



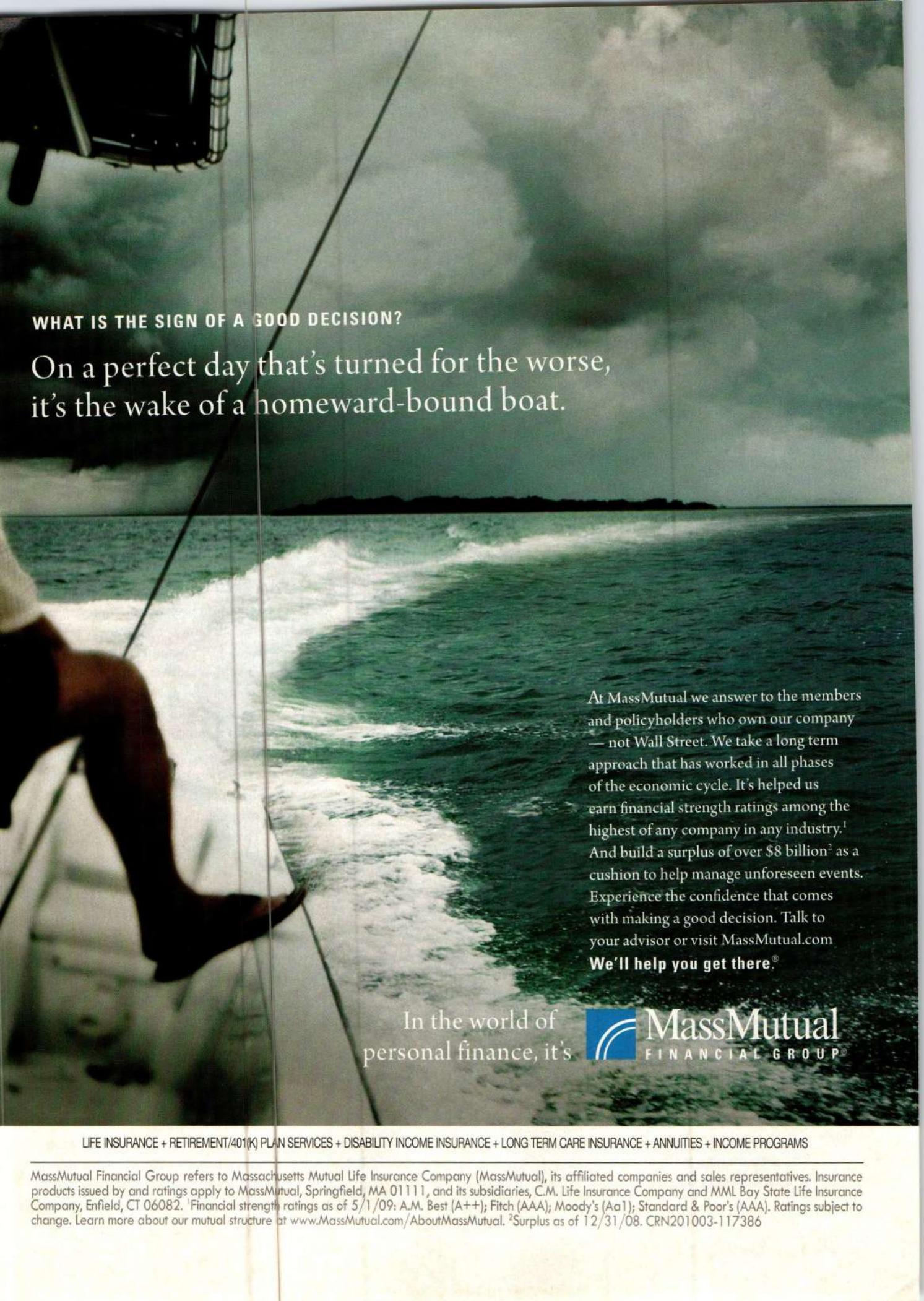
I FOUND KEVIN ROOSE'S '09 essay to be more newsworthy for mainstream media that portray Brown as a radical institution in which right-wing conservatism has no place.

At Brown, I was primarily involved with the arts community, LGBT community, and various communities of color, and I encountered as

many conservatives on campus as liberals. Consequently, I felt that Roose's generalization about Brown students was problematic.

It appears as though Roose came to his conclusions about the similarity between Brown and Liberty students in

After studying the article about



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On a perfect day that's turned for the worse,
it's the wake of a homeward-bound boat.

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part because he was able to easily assimilate at Liberty. I wonder how successful his gay black activist roommate or gay Jewish liberal friend would have been at Liberty. I also wonder how Roosevelt's process would have unraveled had he chosen a Buddhist or Muslim educational institution in which he may have stood out as a "minority." Americans who, like me, pursue non-Christian spiritual paths, are constantly inundated by the predominance of Christianity and the lack of separation between church and state at so many levels of our society. In the future, I hope the BAM will be more innovative in selecting its cover stories, rather than feature stories I can easily find on Yahoo! News.

GIGI OTALVARO-HORMILLOSA '98

San Francisco

aeromestiza@sbcglobal.net

SPRING WEEKEND

THE BROWN CONCERT AGENCY NEEDS your help! In preparation for the fiftieth anniversary of Spring Weekend concerts, and the sixtieth of Spring Weekend itself, we are asking for photos, video, posters, and ticket stubs from Spring Weekends past and present.

Send them to me at 69 Brown St., PO Box 3057. We cannot guarantee the return of these items, so send high-quality photocopies or scanned documents, not original documents.

Thanks in advance for your help.

ALEXANDER SPOTO '11

Campus

alexander_spoto@brown.edu

The writer is cochair of the Brown Concert Agency.

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If you are a current or former user of Brown's Dossier Service visit <http://careerdevelopment.brown.edu/interfolio> for details on transferring your file.

NOTE: All files currently held by the CDC will be removed permanently from the archives on July 1, 2010

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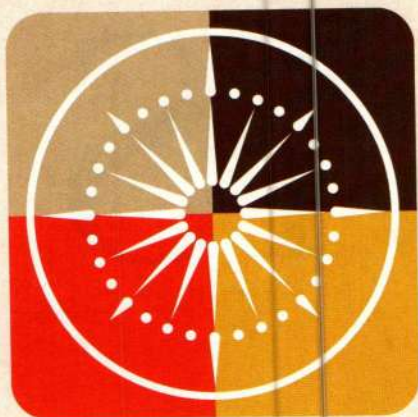
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Under the ELMS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE GREEN AND BEYOND



\$1.4B & Counting

The Boldly Brown campaign has transformed the University's fund-raising.

[MONEY] "SHE WAS ON FIRE," IS HOW Vice Chancellor Jerome C. Vascellaro '74 put it. He was referring to the tenor of President Ruth Simmons's annual address to alumni on the Saturday of Commencement weekend. On Friday the University had announced that the Campaign for Academic Enrichment—aka the Boldly Brown campaign—had

met its \$1.4 billion goal nineteen months before its December 2010 deadline. Also on Friday, Simmons had helped break ground for the \$40 million Perry and Marty Granoff Creative Arts Center along the Pembroke Walk.

The news was not all good, however. The current economic crisis has reduced Brown's endowment by 25 per-

cent, and the administration still needs to cut tens of millions of dollars from its budget. Still, the economic downturn has made Brown's fund-raising achievement all the more remarkable. No wonder Simmons seemed to be fighting back tears as she addressed alumni beneath a tent on Lincoln Field. "This is not a time for champagne receptions," she said. "Except for today."

Last December, says the campaign's chief architect, Senior Vice President for Development Ron Vanden Dorpel '71 AM, "we really kind of fell off a cliff." But this spring brought a burst of donations, and at its May 22 meeting the Corporation accepted \$63 million in gifts and pledges, including \$30 million for financial aid from the Steven A. and Alexandra M. Cohen Foundation. By June 30, the \$1.4 mark had been met.

Four years ago, the goal seemed a stretch, says Matthew J. Mallow '64, who cochairs the campaign with Vascellaro and Elizabeth Z. Chace '59. "We spoke with fund-raising consultants at the start," Mallow says. "By conventional measures we had the capacity to raise \$1 billion; \$1.4 billion was a bit of a leap of faith. But some of us were confident that we could do it."

That confidence came from Simmons, University Chancellor Thomas J. Tisch '77 told the alumni: "Before Ruth, people at Brown said, 'That's a great idea; we can't afford to do it.' She said, 'That's a great idea; we can't afford not to do it.'" As a result, Tisch said, Brown now has need-blind admissions; the number of endowed professorships

has grown from 101 to 169; and the annual financial-aid budget has risen from \$42 million to \$70 million.

Vascellaro attributes the campaign's success to the strong vision behind Simmons's Plan for Academic Enrichment. "We have not raised money for the sake of raising money," he says. "We raised it for the plan: for financial aid, the faculty, a new home for the medical school, new facilities. It's been thematic. When you go out and ask people for time or money, you have to make sure that you are making good use of that time and money. What you've seen this year is the momentum of the plan."

Mallow says people have given for a range of emotional reasons as well. "For a broad swath of donors it's about giving back. Some are nostalgic for the formative role Brown played in their lives," he says. "For Brown parents, it's thanks for what Brown is doing for their kids." And then there's the appeal of Simmons herself. "Ruth strikes a chord wherever she goes," he says. "Her own personal story is absolutely compelling."

Vascellaro has called this "a campaign of discovery," and it has been marked by surprises. First came the \$100 million gift from liquor magnate Sidney Frank '42, who couldn't afford to finish his own studies at Brown. (The first forty-nine Sidney Frank Scholars—all exceptional students from low-income families—were among this year's graduates.) The campaign's second \$100 mil-

lion gift came from Warren Alpert, a Rhode Islander who had no connection to Brown but wanted to support the medical school.

Another piece of unlikely fortune

followed the Smith Swim Center's roof failure. "Then out of the blue comes this bequest [\$14.5 million from Raymond L. Moran '41] for an aquatics center," Simmons told the Saturday morning crowd. Still another has been the generosity of non-alumni parents, who contributed \$168 million to the campaign. "It's unique to have non-alumni parents giving at this level," says Vanden Dorpel, citing the contributions of the Granoffs and Cohens, as well as former trustee Charles Rosenthal.

Less surprising has been the generosity of former and current Corporation members, who ponied up \$428 million, or 31 percent of the total. Every current Corporation member contributed, as did 96 percent of emeriti. "This is quite impressive," Vanden Dorpel says. "The governing body has taken ownership of Brown." CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Expecting the endowment's return to stay low for the next several years, administrators announced plans to cut another **\$30 million from Brown's FY 2011 budget**. They signaled that if the economy doesn't stabilize, further reductions may follow.... In June **148 scholars came to campus from fifty-two countries** in the global south and emerging markets, including Brazil, Uzbekistan, Rwanda, Trinidad, and China. The inaugural Brown International Advanced Research Institutes sponsored four two-week sessions, during which young faculty members shared their thinking about issues in economic development, technology, global governance, and the humanities.... Brown and Draper Laboratory announced plans to create a **center for energy research**; it will develop alternative energy sources and ways to use existing energy more wisely.... **Twenty-three seniors, five recent alumni, and two graduate students won Fulbright grants** to study, teach, and do independent research outside the United States next year.



[RACING] Engineering students (in black T-shirts) unveil the formula car they designed, built, and raced at the Society of Automotive Engineers competition this May. They came in twenty-fifth out of ninety-one teams. Luke Angelini '08, far left, was the lead power-train engineer, and team leader Caitlin Ashley-Rollman '09, third from right, was the lead chassis and suspension engineer.

Perhaps the most striking aspect of this campaign has been its success despite the worst economy since the Great Depression. Last winter fund-raisers blanched, fearing cash-strapped donors would fail to deliver on their pledges or stretch out payment schedules. But 99 percent of donors have continued to pay on time, Vanden Dorpel says. "In fact," Mallow adds, "we've had more [people] asking if they should accelerate to make up for lost endowment income."

Having met its goal early, the University is now looking to surpass it. "We aren't resting on our laurels," Simmons told the alumni. Fund-raisers believe they can raise another \$275–\$300 million by the campaign's scheduled end in December 2010. Another \$50–\$75 million would fund endowed professorships, and \$114 million would bring the financial-aid endowment up to the \$400 million necessary to keep Brown need-blind.

The Corporation is also committed to five construction projects that will require \$65 million to complete. Having abandoned plans to erect new buildings for the medical school and mind, brain, and behavior research, Brown will now remodel a building it owns in Providence's Jewelry District for medical education and will rehab the Metcalf complex of buildings on Thayer Street for mind, brain, and behavior. The Stephen Robert '62 Student Center in Faunce House, the Nelson Fitness Center, and the new aquatics center all need additional funding.

The campaign has also boosted the Brown Annual Fund, which has raised nearly \$201 million; its original goal was \$185 million. "We have totally changed Brown's fund-raising expectations," Vascellaro says, "Before this campaign, Brown raised about \$60 million a year. Over the past five years, we've brought in \$250 million annually; that's our run rate. We've got to continue that forever." He pauses for a moment.

"Well, maybe go back to \$200 million a year. The process of renewal is ongoing. This is not a clock that you wind up and it runs forever."

—CHARLOTTE BRUCE HARVEY '78



An Alternative Energy Drink

Entrepreneurship students kick-start their careers with a fair-trade tea.

[IDEAS] FLASH FORWARD: WHILE undergraduates cram for finals next spring, they may well be sipping energy drinks brewed by recent Brown graduates with a social conscience. The tea drinks are made from the leaves of a holly plant called *guayusa*, which is grown in Ecuador and harvested in a fair-trade program. They're produced by the nascent beverage company Runa LLC, which was founded by a team of students in an entrepreneurship class last fall.

In choosing a product for their assignment, team members "knew that we didn't want to go for an IT or tech-specific route; [we] had too many varied interests," says Daniel MacCombie '09, the company's vice president and treasurer. His classmate Tyler Gage '09, who had worked with indigenous groups in the Amazon region, supplied the missing ingredient when he hosted a shaman from Ecuador for an intercultural exchange. "[The shaman] shared his vision for an opportunity for sustainable development for his community," MacCombie recalls. "He hoped to share the traditional plant knowledge of his communities with consumers in the United States as a way to both connect globally and provide supplemental

incomes for his people."

The product is for real: MacCombie aims to have it available in the Northeast within a year and nationally within three years. To create the company, the students researched everything from bottling to beverage-industry trends and from community relations to Ecuador's export laws. They won the Brown Entrepreneurship Program's business plan competition (\$25,000 in cash and in-kind services) and the student track of the Rhode Island Business Plan Competition (\$45,300 in cash and in-kind services).

Runa is for-profit only in beverage sales outside Ecuador. "We have started a foundation, Fundación Runa, in Ecuador," MacCombie says. "All the money made from buying and drying guayusa leaves, making extracts, shipping them to the U.S., and selling them to the company will stay in Ecuador." Runa is hiring an indigenous director for the foundation, and "eventually the majority of the board will be indigenous Ecuadorians," MacCombie says.

A marine-biology honors concentrator who dreamed of a career in renewable energy, MacCombie says he came to Brown "introverted, timid, and unsure of my future." As an undergraduate he helped organize the Brown is Green initiative and its 2008 conference. He also served as a national board member of Students for Sensible Drug Policy; as a summer technology and markets analyst for the Clinton Climate Initiative, where he developed experience in international market trends and sustainability issues; and as a research assistant for Brown's Advisory Committee on Corporate Responsibility in Investment Policies. And he codirected the Political Theory Project's Janus Forum, which promotes political debate on campus.

Now, after a summer of fund-raising and beverage expos, he heads to Ecuador. "It's wild," he says. —ELAINE BEEBE

This article is adapted from the online publication *Today* at Brown (<http://today.brown.edu/>).

Not Just Moonshine

Historian Edmund S. Morgan returns to Brown.

[HISTORY] SOMETIMES THE PAST overtakes the present. That's what happened May 13, at a luncheon hosted by the John Carter Brown Library. Research fellow Russell Stoermer was scheduled to discuss the diaries of an Anglican minister in mid-eighteenth-century Virginia, but first he ceded the microphone to a couple of visiting eminences.

Historian Edmund S. Morgan, Sterling Professor of History Emeritus at Yale and a giant among U.S. historians, was on campus to sign copies of his new book, *American Heroes*. He sat at a table with Alva O. Way Professor Gordon Wood, who won the 1995 Pulitzer Prize for history for *The Radicalism of the American Revolution*, and Annette Gordon-Reed, who received this year's history Pulitzer for *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family*.

Morgan's books, which fill entire library shelves, are standard reading in college history courses. He has won every major prize in the field: Bill Clinton gave him a National Humanities Medal in 2001, and the Pulitzer committee hon-

ored Morgan in 2006 "for a creative and deeply influential body of work ... that spans the last half century."

Less well known is Morgan's relationship to Brown, where he taught from 1946 until 1955. "It changed my life," he said succinctly in May. He explained that he had spent 1945-46 at the University of Chicago, which at that

time offered a curriculum strictly based on the Great Books. "All courses were compulsory, and they were taught by teams of people," he recalled. "The only American history course was one taught by sixteen of us, and we met weekly to discuss what we were going to teach that week. We spent many more hours [in those meetings] than we spent in the classroom. It was pretty grim as I look back on it."

Then, Morgan said, he received an offer to teach early U.S. history at Brown. "That was my field!" he exclaimed. "I jumped at the chance."

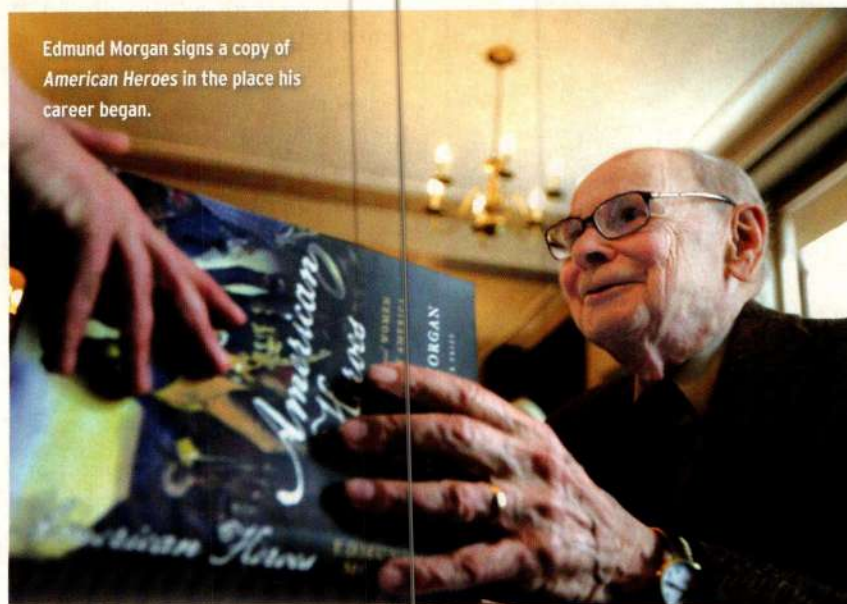
His first day on the job, he went down to the chairman's office in Prospect House and detailed his plans for the course. But his boss, clearly embarrassed, cut Morgan off. "He said, 'It's your course. As long as you call it Early American History, as it's titled in the catalog, I don't care if you teach the history of moonshine.'"

"I thought that I'd died and gone to heaven," Morgan said, fluttering his eyelids toward the ceiling.

"That is the way I remember coming to Brown."
—C.B.H.



[TWO WHEELING] Last December, **Carly Seiff '09** got it into her head that her fellow students needed to ride their bikes more. So, along with several other students, she bought seven new bicycles and formed Bikes@Brown. For a yearly five-dollar fee, students could sign up to rent a bike for two days at a time. Soon students were using the bikes to go to the supermarket, to enjoy a night out in the city, and even to take a long ride along the East Bay Bike Path that runs from Providence to Bristol. Demand was so great that the group added eleven more bikes to their stock by the end of the school year and it now plans to buy more in the fall. "I enjoyed biking around campus, Providence, and Rhode Island so much," Seiff says, "that I wanted other people to have the same appreciation of what's around them."



Edmund Morgan signs a copy of *American Heroes* in the place his career began.

Shop Talk

Jack Nicholson headlines the Ivy Film Festival.

[HOLLYWOOD] YOU COULD FEEL the power surge when Jack Nicholson, sporting his trademark grin, strode down the aisle of Salomon Hall's DiCicco Auditorium April 25. On stage that afternoon were three Hollywood giants: producer Robert Evans, whose credits range from *Rosemary's Baby* to *The Godfather*; Brad Grey, who produced *The Sopranos* before taking the helm at Paramount; and *Variety*'s Peter Bart, who moderated the discussion.

"I have no idea how to introduce Jack," Bart said, impressing upon his mostly student audience the singularity of the event they were about to witness. "Jack doesn't do this. He doesn't do festivals." Plus, Bart said, the Lakers were playing in Los Angeles, and Nicholson does not like to leave L.A. during basketball season. The crowd went wild.

In the front row of the auditorium sat the reason for Nicholson's presence on campus: his daughter Lorraine '12. Brad Grey, too, has kids at Brown, and Evans taught film at Brown in the 1970s. For two hours, the four men sat in big armchairs on stage, trading tips and memories and watching film clips that spanned their careers, from

Nicholson's debut in *Little Shop of Horrors* to a slick trailer for Paramount's blockbuster *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen* ("a big summer popcorn movie," Grey said).

They admitted to a few mistakes. Nicholson said Jerzy Kosinski asked him to direct *Being There*: "I read the book," Nicholson said. "I didn't see a movie in it." (Hal Ashby did.)

Asked about 3-D movies, Nicholson quipped, "The glasses are awkward. No one wants to take their date to the movies and wear paper glasses."

He declined to pick a favorite role—"They're like children. You can't afford to have favorites"—but he did

admit to having a soft spot for *Easy Rider*. "I said a moron could play this part—which I proved," he recalled. But, he said, "This movie made me a movie star. Just like that."

In the Q&A session afterwards, a student asked Nicholson what the hardest part of the job was. "Early calls," Nicholson replied. "I'm no good at nine o'clock in the morning."

"I feel the same way," the student commiserated.

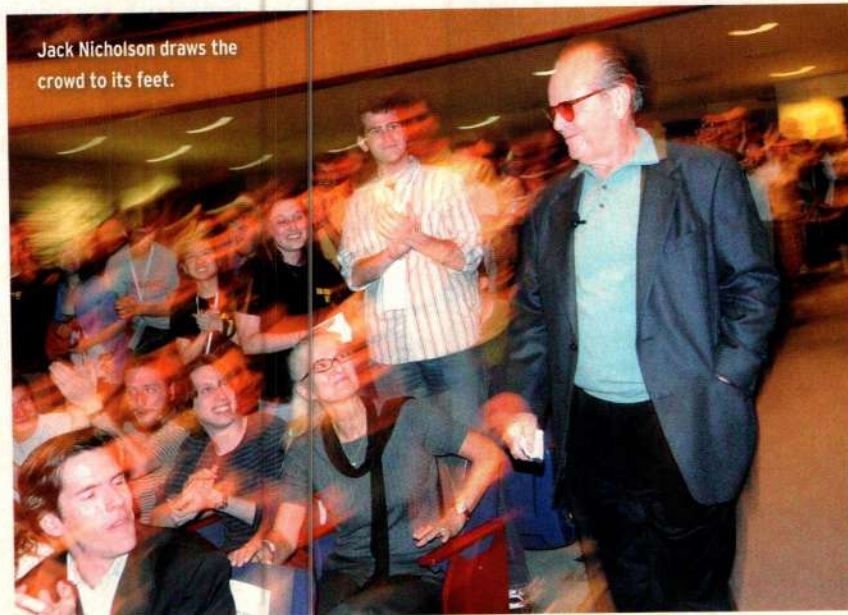
Since 2001, the Ivy Film Festival has supplemented its annual student film competition with workshops and lectures by some of the biggest names in the business. This year's six-day roster included a talk by cochairman of Fox Filmed Entertainment Tom Rothman '76 (who's also a Brown parent) and a screening of *Big Fan*, the directorial debut of former *Onion* editor Robert Siegel, who wrote the screenplay for *The Wrestler*. Afterwards, Siegel met with a small group of students and answered questions about writing, directing, and why he finds the actor Patton Oswalt—who stars in *Big Fan*—more interesting than, say, Brad Pitt. "I hate when they cast a really good-looking actor," Siegel said; "it's too distracting."

Asked how he learned to direct, Siegel admitted to picking up a copy of *Film-making for Dummies*. "I'm a big believer in just doing it," he said.

—IRENE CHEN '09 & C.B.H. **B**



[CREW] Head Coach Paul Cooke '89 wields the Ladies' Plate Challenge Cup as his varsity eight celebrates a half-length win at the Henley Royal Regatta in England. The freshmen eight finished second to Princeton in the Temple Challenge Cup. Front row: Assistant Coach Judah Rome, coxswain Rob O'Leary '09, Scott Morgan '09, Cooke, Ben Duggan '09, Nick Ritter '09, and Gavin Crynes '09. Back row: Brent Mylrea '10, Chris Bowman '10, Christian Crynes '09 (obscured), and Matt Wheeler '09. Brown previously won the Ladies' Plate in 1984, 1993, and 2000.



Jack Nicholson draws the crowd to its feet.

To Dartmouth's new president, Dr. Jim Yong Kim, Brown Class of 1982:



Congratulations!

Physician, anthropologist, researcher, global health pioneer, leader, and now seventeenth president of Dartmouth, your life and work exemplify the admonition of the Brown charter to lead a life "of usefulness and reputation." You are an inspiration to Brown students and alumni everywhere.

The Brown Alumni Association (BAA) sends its warmest congratulations as you inspire new generations of Dartmouth graduates to solve the world's most complex problems.

With best wishes,

JOSEPH M. FERNANDEZ '85
President, Brown Alumni Association

L to R: Professor Emeritus Barrett Hazeltine, Dean of Medicine Edward Wing, and honorary degree recipient Jim Yong Kim '82; May 24, 2009

BROWNALUMNI
ASSOCIATION



JIM YONG KIM '82, '09 DMS (HON.)
A.B., Human Biology
President, Dartmouth College
MacArthur Fellow, 2003
Brown Alumni Association
William Rogers Award, 2008

NURTURING CREATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS



"Brown's Literary Arts program has provided me with a venue where I am able to engage in creative and intellectual exploration, interdisciplinary arts, and cross-genre writing. My hope is that one day my own language (poetry) will change the way writers and non-writers alike think about the world."

Claire Donato | MFA Candidate, Literary Arts



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To read more about Claire's Brown experience, visit <http://annualfund.brown.edu/BAM>

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The View from on High

A recent graduate's quixotic quest to climb the highest peak in every state.

I WALKED A LOT WHEN I WAS AT BROWN: ALONG Thayer and Brook streets, to Spike's, Dunkin' Donuts, and Ocean Coffee Roasters; to the OMAC, the G.C.B., Loui's, and Prospect Park; to the water, from the water, and—sometimes—to class.

In low-lying Rhode Island, of all places, I became interested in mountains, real ones made of rock and dirt—as opposed to the steep slope of freshman angst. I spent a lot of time earnestly thinking and reading about mountains, and, increasingly, hiking them in New England, and, during the summers, out West and down South.

Why mountains? Maybe because they are beautiful and difficult: qualities I find attractive in places and people. I left school midway through my junior year to hike the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine, and walked through three pairs of boots and years of mental debris along the way. I finished on August 21, 2003, and returned to Brown a week later, leaner and quieter.

Uncomfortable now with sidewalks and fluorescent lights, I turned to trees, more mountains, and an odd pursuit called "high-pointing." A suitably obscure, arbitrary, and difficult distraction from my vaguely existential anxieties, high-pointing would take a lifetime to complete. The goal is to reach the highest natural point in every state, from Florida's 345-foot Britton Hill to Alaska's 20,320-foot Denali Peak.

Having bagged five state high points along the Appalachian Trail, I now set about pursuing the remaining forty-five. Rhode Island's high point, Jerimoth Hill, is an 812-foot bump just off Highway 101, near the Connecticut border. I waited until one of the national holidays during which the owner of the abutting private property permitted hikers to cross along his short gravel path to the hill's "peak," which I found draped with prayer flags. Next I climbed Vermont's Mt. Mansfield,

Connecticut's Mt. Frissell, and Massachusetts's Mount Greylock in rapid succession with a long-suffering girlfriend who had stayed with me through my Appalachian odyssey and humored my new obsession. After we broke up, I spent the next summer in Boulder, Colorado, and hiked up 14,440-foot Mt. Elbert with a classmate from Denver I barely knew.

Driving east at summer's end with my oldest friend (also a Brown classmate), we stopped to climb Kansas's Mt. Sunflower—an imperceptible hill along the Colorado border, on top of which a plaque deadpans, "Nothing happened here in 1897." In Missouri we then ascended Taum Sauk Mountain by a short concrete path off a parking lot. Both peaks

are, conveniently, just off I-70. (We also stopped at Graceland.)

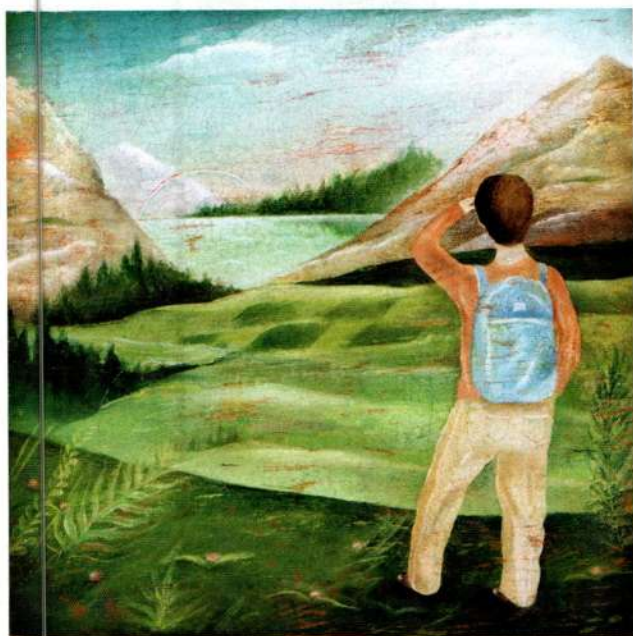
By the time I graduated from Brown, I'd stood upon twelve state high points. I've notched five more since then, including Hawaii's snow-covered Mauna Kea, the tallest mountain on earth, at 33,476-feet—if you measure from the ocean floor—with three of my closest Brown friends.

A few years ago in New Mexico, where I live now, I trudged up 13,161-foot Wheeler Peak, the state's highest, with a former girlfriend. She took genuine

interest in the pursuit, and in me. We walked a lot together, and Wheeler—beautiful and difficult, like her—was one of many peaks we stood atop before eventually heading our separate ways. It was a high point that happened to occur in a high place—and that's something else altogether.

At this rate, I'll reach my fiftieth natural high point when I'm sixty, an age I can't imagine being. Whether I make it up Denali or not though isn't what matters: I've already gotten the perspective I needed. B

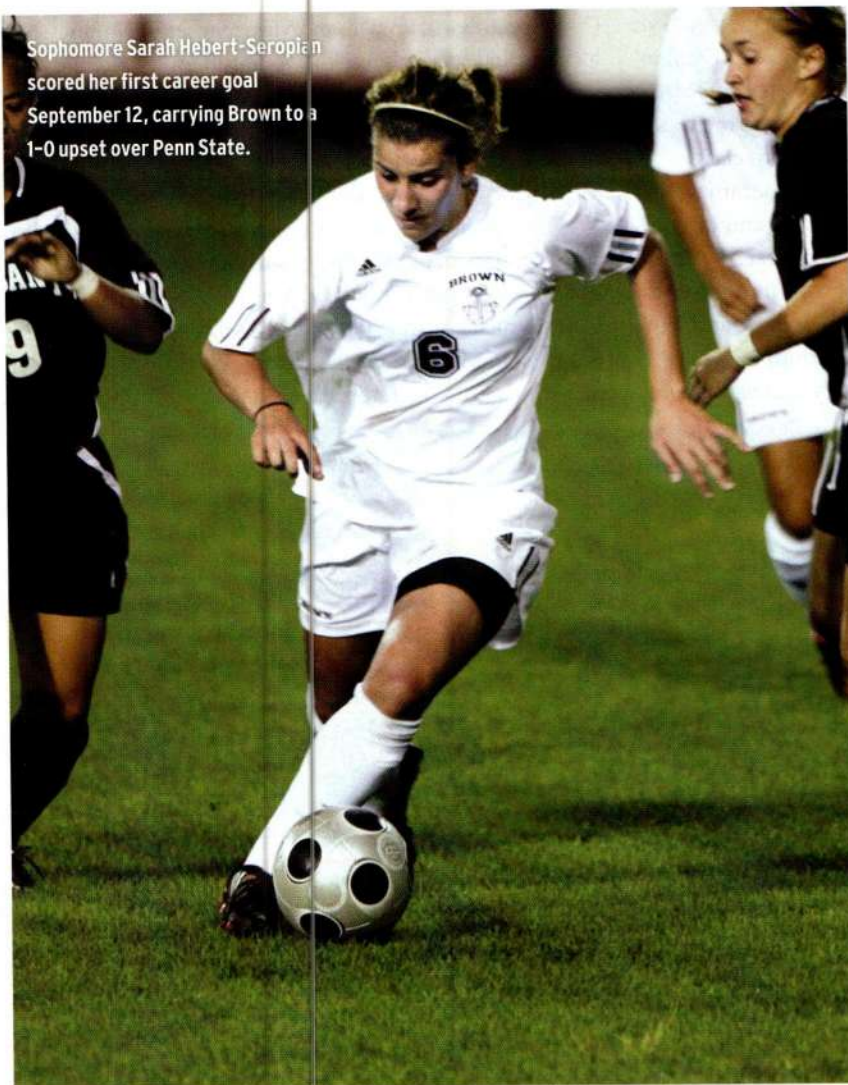
CHARLES BETHEA is a freelance writer splitting time between Atlanta and Santa Fe.



Sports

2008-09 HIGHLIGHTS
ACADEMIC HONORS
MEN'S ROWING

Sophomore Sarah Hebert-Seropian scored her first career goal September 12, carrying Brown to a 1-0 upset over Penn State.



A Last Look

Before September triggers a **whole new sports year**, we review the best of 2008-09. BY GORDON MORTON '93

AS SUMMER WHIZZES BY AND THE NEW academic year looms, here's a look back at some notable moments from the past year in Brown sports.

» BEST DEFENSIVE STAND

The first indication that the **football** team would be a contender last fall was its early-season defeat of Harvard, 24-

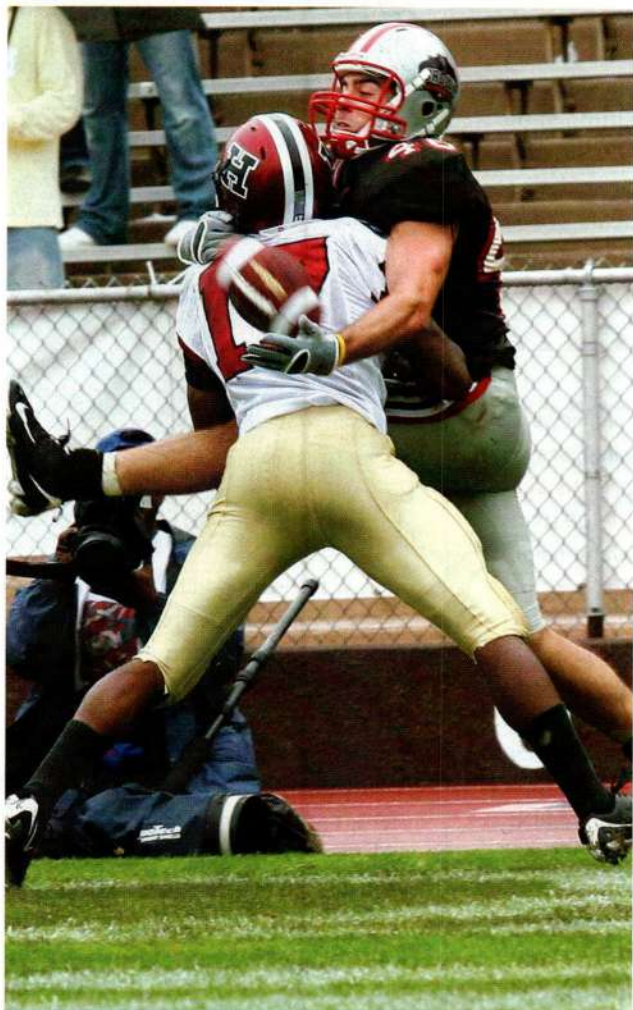
22. As I noted in the September/October **BAM**, high-powered offenses have thrived under head coach **Phil Estes**. A successful season would depend on the defense holding up, and on September 27, the afternoon the Bears hosted the Crimson, the defense did just that. The Bears held a 24-16 lead late in the fourth quarter, but Harvard scored a touchdown with 1:03 left on the clock, bringing the score to 24-22. A roughing-the-passer penalty opened the door to the Crimson's attempt at a two-point conversion from the one-and-a-half yard line. As Harvard running back Ben Jenkins powered through the line, he was met by defensive lineman **Jake Powers** '09 and outside linebacker **Miles Craigwell** '09, who stopped him cold, preserving the Bears' lead.

» MOST SURPRISING UPSET (1)

The **women's soccer** team shocked Penn State, ranked eleventh in the country, on September 12, when **Sarah Hebert-Seropian** '12 scored with fifty-eight seconds remaining in the first overtime. Goalie **Brenna Hogue** '10 stopped eighteen shots from the Nittany Lions, earning the 1-0 victory.

» MOST SURPRISING UPSET (2)

As the **men's hockey** team entered the ECAC tournament in March, few observers expected much of them. That was before the Bears shocked Harvard and the rest of the collegiate hockey world with their performance in the first round. Seeded twelfth with only three wins in the regular season, Brown posted back-to-back shutouts, 1-0 and 2-0, against fifth-seed Harvard in Cambridge. It was the first time in Harvard men's hockey history—dating back to 1897—that the Crimson was blanked on



consecutive nights on home ice. It was also the first time in ECAC history that a number-twelve-seed had defeated a fifth seed. Brown freshman goalie **Mike Clemente '12** stopped an amazing total of eighty-six shots over the two games.

» MOST SURPRISING UPSET (3)

College **baseball** powerhouses tend to be based in warm states with lots of baseball weather. It's no surprise, then, that when the Bears pulled into Malibu late in March, they were facing a Pepperdine team ranked seventeenth nationally. What was surprising was the thrilling 20-8 pounding Brown administered. The Bears later followed it up by compiling a near-perfect 16-1-1 home record and set a school mark for Ivy League wins, with fifteen.

» MOST DOMINANT

In one of the most completely dominating performances in Eastern

Sprints history, **men's rowing** entered five events and won five gold medals. The Bears struck gold in the varsity fours, second freshman eight, freshman eight, second varsity eight, and varsity eight. As a result, the team won the Rowe Cup for most team points, and the Worcester Cup, which is given to the top varsity eight. Oh,

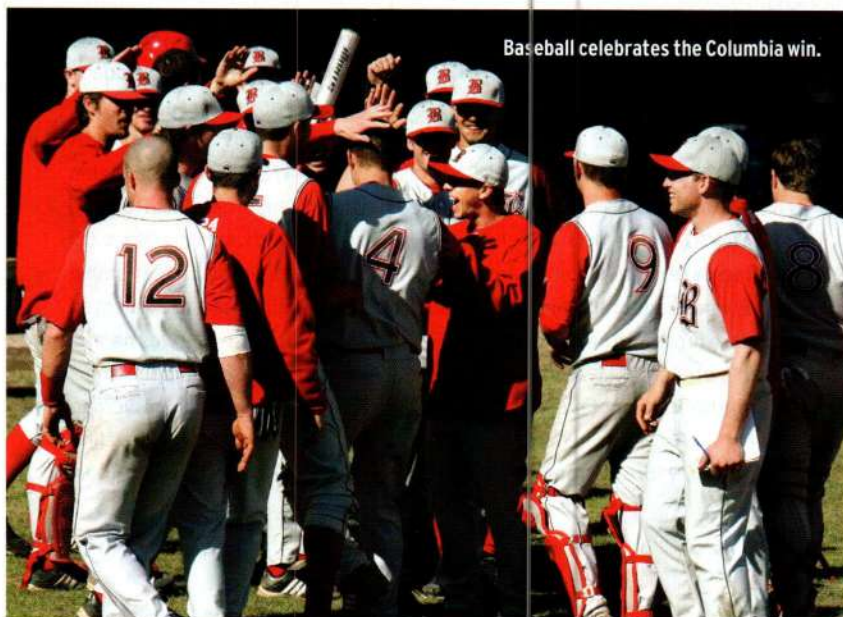
and the varsity eight also won its second consecutive Ivy League title.

» MOST EXCITING RACE

The Yale **women's varsity eight**, ranked second in the country, entered its May 2 race against Brown undefeated. But the Brown women were not intimidated. The two crews battled stroke-for-stroke



Buddy Farnham reaches around a Harvard defender for a one-handed touchdown reception (left), and Jordan Burke earns his second consecutive Ivy Player of the Year award.



Baseball celebrates the Columbia win.

for 2,000 meters on the Housatonic River before Brown crossed the finish line one-tenth of a second ahead of the Bulldogs to retain possession of the Nat and Anne Case Cup.

» BEST ALUMNI SPORTS MOM

In *Minor League Mom*, Pam Carey, mother

of **Todd Carey** '93 and Tim Carey (Dartmouth '92), chronicles the journey of her two Ivy League sons through the Red Sox farm system. Todd, a Brown Hall of Famer, was an All-Star for the Trenton Thunder AA affiliate of the Red Sox and played AAA for the Pawtucket Red Sox before hanging up his cleats. The book

Earning Academic All-Ivy team honors this spring with GPAs of 3.0 or higher were **Jordan Burke** '09 (men's lacrosse), **Christian Crynes** '10 (men's rowing), **Steve Daniels** '09 (baseball), **Duriel Hardy** '10 (men's outdoor track & field), **Chris Lee** '09 (tennis), **Christina Caligiuri** '09 (women's rowing), **Sara Mansur** '09 (tennis), **Michelle Moses** '09 (softball), **Lauren Present** '10 (women's water polo), and **Kelly Robinson** '10 (women's lacrosse).... Designated hitter **Pete Greskoff** '11 was named to the New England Intercollegiate Baseball Association all-star

GAME DAY

team.... Led by **Liz Giliberti** '10, who finished second in the Cacchione Cup standings, the equestrian team finished tenth in the country at the IHSA Championships.... **Men's rowing** finished the IRA Regatta with the second varsity eight finishing

second in the country and the freshman eight finishing third. The varsity eight was fourth overall, while the varsity four placed second in the petite final and ended up eighth overall.... **Women's rowing** finished fifth at the 2009 NCAA Championships, with each of its three boats finishing among the top ten nationally. The varsity four finished a close second in the petite final, putting them eighth overall. The second varsity eight was fourth behind Yale, Cal, and Stanford, while the varsity eight finished fifth behind Stanford, Virginia, Cal, and Yale. **Hannah Malvin** '10 and **Jessica Stage** '09 were named first team All-Americans by the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association. Coxswain **Christina Caligiuri** '10 was a first-team All-New England selection, while **Hope Richardson** '11 was a second-team All-New England pick.... Men's ice hockey coach **Roger Grillo** resigned to become a regional manager for USA Hockey's American Development Model.... **Jodi McKenna** '98, head women's ice hockey coach at Wesleyan, will be an assistant coach for the 2010 U.S. Olympic women's hockey team.... **Anna Willard** '06 won the women's 800-meter race in 1:59.29 at the 2009 Reebok Grand Prix in New York City, defeating three-time Olympian Hazel Clark and 2008 Olympic finalist Kenia Sinclair of Jamaica.... Goalie **Jordan Burke** '09, attackman **Thomas Muldoon** '10, and defenseman **Peter Fallon** '11 earned U.S. Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association All-America honors. Burke also was honored with the USILA Ensign C. Markland Kelly Jr. Award as the National Division I Goalie of the Year.... Men's lacrosse coach **Lars Tiffany** '90 was named New England Coach of the Year for the second year in a row.... **Jesse Nunn** '09 (women's lacrosse) was named a second-team IWLCA Northeast All-Region selection.... Picked for the CoSIDA/ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America District I At-Large teams were: **Chris Lee** '09 (tennis), **Adam Pantel** '10 (fencing), **Dan Ricketts** '09 (swimming), and **Lauren Vitkus** '09 (women's lacrosse). Picked for the national All-America team was pitcher **Michelle Moses** '09, who graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a 4.0 GPA. She was also selected as a candidate for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award.... **Brynn Smith** '11 was named the women's athlete of the meet at the Ivy League Heptagonal Championships after winning both the shot put and the hammer throw.... Two men and one woman qualified for the NCAA track & field championships: **Craig Kinsley** '11 (javelin), **Bryan Powlen** '09 (discus), and **Brynn Smith** '11 (hammer throw). —G.M.



Goalie Brenna Hogue finished her junior year with 17 career saves.

offers a fascinating glimpse behind the scenes of minor league baseball as Carey traces her family's journey from Little League to AAA.

» BEST IN THE CLUTCH

In the NCAA **men's lacrosse** tournament, **Kyle Hollingsworth** '09 scored with eight seconds left in regulation against Johns Hopkins to send the game into overtime. Brown had trailed, 11–8, with 7:24 left in the fourth quarter, but two goals by **Thomas Muldoon** '10 set up Hollingsworth's heroics. Unfortunately, Hopkins was able to advance when Brian Christopher scored just thirty-six seconds into overtime.

» BEST NEW EVENT

The **women's golf** team hosted its first intercollegiate tournament on April 4–5, at the Thorny Lea Golf Club in Brockton, Massachusetts. Joining the Bears in the inaugural Brown Women's Golf Invitational event were Boston College, Boston University, Dartmouth, and Harvard. Freshman **Carly Arison** '12 finished fifth in the thirty-two-player field to lead the Bears.

» MOST TALENTED SIBLINGS/RELATIVES

Tennis player **Bianca Aboubakare** '11 was a first team All-Ivy player in both singles and doubles; her sister **Carissa** '12, meanwhile, was the number-two doubles player and the number-four singles player for the Bears, who posted a 19–4 record,

the best season since 1997. Football wide receiver **Buddy Farnham** '10 was a first team All-Ivy and All-New England selection and was ranked third in the Ivies with sixty-three receptions and 816 receiving yards. His brother **Bobby** '12 completed his first season on the men's ice hockey team, finishing in a tie for fifth on the squad in goals scored.

» BEST TIE

On September 14, during one of the most memorable weekends in **women's soccer** history, the Bears stared down the best team in the country and came away with a 0-0 double-overtime tie. To put the game in perspective, UCLA had outscored its previous five opponents by a combined 16-1 margin. Brown's **Brenna Hogue** '10 was outstanding in net, turning back a dozen shots. The Bruins held a 34-7 advantage in shots, including a 12-3 edge in shots on goal, but Hogue, bolstered by the Brown defense, helped preserve the shutout. The tie came two days after the Bears dumped Penn State, as described in *Best Most Surprising Upset* (1), above.

» BEST STOPPERS

Jordan Burke '09 (men's lacrosse), and runners-up **Nicole Stock** '09 (women's ice hockey), **Brenna Hogue** '10 (women's soccer), and **Jarrett Leech** '09 (men's soccer).

This has been the year of the goalie at Brown as several netminders have distinguished themselves. However, none has risen to the level of **Jordan Burke** '09, of the men's lacrosse team. Burke earned first team All-America honors and was recently drafted by the Boston Cannons of Major League Lacrosse. Also outstanding this year was **Nicole Stock** '09, who left Brown holding numerous saves records and who was a second-team All-Ivy and All-ECAC selection. Meanwhile, **Brenna Hogue** '10 (see *Best Tie*, above) and **Jarrett Leech** '09 each earned honorable mention All-Ivy accolades in women's and men's soccer, respectively. Leech posted five shutouts and a miniscule 0.87 goals-against average. **B**



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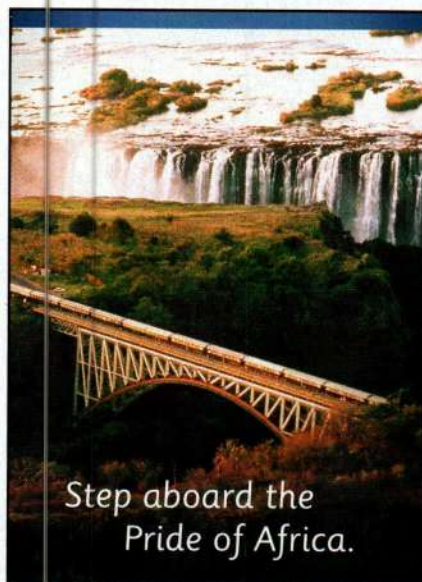
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Travel Beyond

It's All About Love

Hip-hop music began as an expression of the hopes and fears of the inner-city poor. **Then greed and violence corrupted it.** It's a story that **TRICIA ROSE**, one of the first scholars to study hip-hop, believes has much to **teach us about our culture and how we treat one another.**

BY BETH SCHWARTZAPFEL '01

PHOTOGRAPHS BY KATHLEEN DOOHER



Tricia Rose grew up on hip-hop. She wants people to know how liberating it can be, and how much the recording industry has cost it.

If you think scholarly research and hip-hop music don't go together, you don't know Tricia Rose '87 AM, '93 PhD. Rose, a Brown professor of Africana studies, knows her Biggie Smalls, and her Eazy-E. She also knows her history. Rap and hip-hop, she believes, are serious forms of cultural revelation that offer a window not only into the streets and basketball courts that spawned them, but into broader patterns of social exploitation and consumer culture.

When, in the first line of her new book, *The Hip Hop Wars: What We Talk About When We Talk About Hip Hop—and Why It Matters*, Rose observes that "Hip-hop is not dead, but it is gravely ill," she writes as both a fan and a social critic. Rose believes that what began as a spontaneous form of African American cultural expression, built from the only musical tools available to poor urban youth, has become commercialized into a dangerous commodity. And what a commodity it is: Despite slumping sales in the music industry, last year's top hip-hop earner, 50 Cent, raked in \$150 million. In 2004, when rap music and its accompanying cultural accessories—sneakers, jewelry, Pimp Juice—generated more than \$10 billion dollars, *Forbes* reported that the industry "has moved beyond its musical roots, transforming into a dominant and increasingly lucrative lifestyle."

As Rose argues in books such as *Black Noise: Rap Music and Black Culture in Contemporary America* and last year's *The Hip Hop Wars*, rap and hip-hop are so important that we underestimate their cultural impact at our peril. She is one of the few scholars to take this music seriously, and in her scholarship and public speaking she has issued a challenge to those on both sides of what she sees as the hip-hop divide. Cornel West has called Rose "the distinguished dean of hip-hop studies." "Above all else," says the African American media maven Tavis Smiley, "Tricia Rose is real."

What the record industry is selling, Rose argues, is not music, or fashion, or television shows like *Pimp My Ride* or *Flavor of Love*, it's blackness. It's a very particular and narrow concept of blackness that has little to do with real people and everything to do with valorizing violence, drugs, sexism, and materialism. It's a sort of modern-day minstrelsy: commercial hip-hop artists,

with help from record companies, package themselves into what they think white people want to hear, and then sell it to them. "Artists are getting rich," Rose says, "but at what cost?"

One major cost is the message sent to young black people as they learn to understand their place in the world and the options available to them. Rose's husband, Andre Willis, a Yale assistant professor of the philosophy of religion, contrasts hip-hop in this sense to jazz. "When you're talking about jazz," says Willis, "ultimately, on my read, you're talking about something that affirms the fundamental unity of humanity. When you're talking about rap, you're talking about something which accentuates and acknowledges that which divides us." As an African American man, Willis knows what racism can do to the soul of a person and a community. So, yes, he acknowledges, "It moves me. But they're unhealthy ways of moving me. They don't end up reducing my rage, helping me love better."

For Rose, this is the essential problem facing hip-hop: how can a music that has always been an outlet for black aspirations and frustrations, for its joys and sorrows, return to a place where it's also a force for social change? "I come from very F-

U stock," Rose says with a laugh.

"But you can't just say F-U. You gotta say yes to something." In other words, she wants to know, how can hip-hop make people love better?

For Rose, the essential problem facing hip-hop is **how can a music that has been an outlet for black aspirations and frustrations** return to a place where it's also a force for social change?

***Black Noise*, published in 1995,** is the work of a young, idealistic academic. Adapted from Rose's doctoral dissertation, it is a paean to rap music and all its political possibilities: "Worked

out on the rusting urban core as a playground," Rose writes, "hip-hop transforms stray technological parts intended for cultural and industrial trash heaps into sources of pleasure and power.... Hip-hop gives voice to the tensions and contradictions in the public urban landscape ... and attempts to seize the shifting urban terrain, to make it work on behalf of the dispossessed."

The book was a seminal work. Other African American musical forms, such as jazz and blues, had long been taken seriously by scholars, but until *Black Noise* rap was considered



"Thug life shouldn't be treated as a product; it should be a crisis that we try to change," Rose told black leaders at a State of the Black Union panel sponsored by Tavis Smiley in February. At a Columbia College panel (bottom) asking "Is America Really Post-Racial?" she warned that white privilege can actually be sustained "under the guise of erasing the category of race ... putting people of color on the defensive for asking questions about race."

myself over to the power of the funk—which in turn was being used as a soundtrack for a story that was really against me—was a very sad day for me."

The soundtrack of Rose's story starts with stacks of 45s. Raised until she was nine years old in a Harlem tenement where her mother had to organize rent strikes to get the heat turned on in the winter, Rose would save up her quarter-a-week allowance money to buy the newest singles by James Brown; Earth, Wind & Fire; the Stylistics; and Parliament-Funkadelics.

Rose is painfully aware that her upbringing could easily be romanticized by those who (to use the name of a mid-nineties rap group) are invested in the Thug Life. But she's not interested in that kind of street cred. In fact, she would rather not talk too much about her childhood at all. "I hate the big violin thing," she says. "I am so not the personal storyteller."

When she interrupts herself to say this, she is talking about her white mother's parents, who cut off contact with their daughter when she married the black man who would become Rose's father. Until the day her grandparents died, Rose says, they were never in the same room as her father, the man who saw to it that his kids had every opportunity that he had been denied. Still, she says, "This is classic. It's really not a big deal."

In 1970, when Rose was nine, the family moved to Co-op City, a brand-new housing development in the northeast Bronx. Her brother Chris, five years her senior, remembers the move as "a revelation." "You could go out and you could actually be safe," he says. "You could ride your bike around without people trying to steal it from you all the time."

This was a pivotal time in New York City history. In the name of urban renewal, cities were using federal funds for slum clearance razing entire neighborhoods and turning them over to private developers to build massive housing complexes. Many prominent voices had been criticizing this approach for years: Jane Jacobs had published her *Death and Life of Great American Cities* in 1961, and in 1963 James Baldwin had famously said, "urban renewal means Negro removal"—but the devastating results of that policy had not yet reached their peak. Working-class New Yorkers were still hopeful about upward mobility. Like the Roses when they moved out of Harlem, "everybody who could get out of these bad neighborhoods did," says Chris Rose. "Co-op City was like the first stop. Everybody was pretty like-minded, with similar aspirations and families." The mul-

a passing fad, cultural fluff not worthy of scholarly attention. The book went on to win the American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation. *Black Issues in Higher Education* called it one of the top twenty-five books of the twentieth century. *The Village Voice* called it "necessary reading ... for those who love hip-hop's rhymes and reasons."

But somewhere along the line, Rose found that the music had turned on her. Take "Gin and Juice," the irresistibly catchy 1992 smash hit by rappers Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg. "Once I really listened to the words and thought about the story being told," Rose writes in *The Hip Hop Wars*, "it was hard to know what to do: Respond to the funk and ignore the words, or reject the story and give up the funk that goes with it. The moment I realized that I was being asked to give

tiracial development was still under construction when the family moved in, and Chris Rose recalls that the residents were all striving together. "Tricia just blossomed in that environment," he says. "This kid's running around, making friends left and right."

To spend a day with the adult Tricia Rose is to see this scrappy, outgoing kid in action. Today she is at the New York City studios of VH1, where she will be interviewed for a documentary about the pioneering black music show

rapper Tupac Shakur—exactly the guns-and-drugs type of material Rose excoriates in *The Hip Hop Wars*.

With the cameras rolling, Rose shifts gears easily between her personal memories of *Soul Train*, the historical and sociological context for its popularity, and the political implications of the first public space on television for black youth culture. She talks about white flight and Negro removal. She talks about Afros, poking fun of her teenage preoccupation with having "the biggest Afro with the least number of dents!" She talks about disco and message music and the significance of the train metaphor in African

American history.

"This is really good," Kevin tells her while the cameraman changes tape. "You use some really pretty words, too. I'm going to have to Google some of those words."

Rose just laughs. They had just been talking about the anagram game that was featured each week on *Soul Train*, and she teases Kevin about it. "We gotta get you a Scramble Board."

As she recalled on the set that day, ten-year-old Tricia Rose watched *Soul Train* in her new bedroom in Co-op City, and it "just blew your head open." Until *Soul Train*, African Americans were rarely on television except as a "nightly news problem," as

Rose describes it now. There was no *Cosby Show*. There was no Gwen Ifill, no Oprah Winfrey. "If you saw a couple of black artists on *Dick Cavett*, it was unusual," she says, but on *Soul Train* black kids were dancing, hanging out, and making music in the name of exuberance and fun. "It was liberating," she says.

She wasn't able to articulate it quite this way yet, but even as a young girl, Rose was aware that her identity was complicated and life wasn't always as it seemed. Her white mother and her relatively light skin, for instance, had made her the object of suspicion among other children in Harlem. "There were a lot of kids who were mad about what it

Soul Train, which first aired in 1971. Sitting on the set in a director's chair, her face framed by loose brown curls, Rose manages to exude both warmth and toughness. She is exceedingly gracious and never talks down to people—even when she's schooling them. She will learn the names of everyone she meets today, from the makeup artist who prepares her for the camera (Christopher), to the cab driver who takes us to lunch (Donnell), to the waiter who serves us there (Daniel). She has an easy rapport with the documentary's producer (Kevin), even after she discovers he produced several music videos for the slain Los Angeles



As a girl growing up in the Bronx, a decade before *The Cosby Show*, Rose found the dancers on *Soul Train* (right) liberating. Now she opens her students' eyes from her office on campus (opposite).



suggested to them," Rose recalls, "that it was somehow a privilege I didn't deserve. I remember being acutely aware of both the injustice of the interpretation of me, but also that I had advantages because I had two parents. A lot of them didn't."

When their parents secured scholarships for Tricia and Chris to attend the Dalton School, on Manhattan's upper East Side, Rose's sense of herself as both an insider and an outsider—a black, white, poor, rich, prep-school girl from the hood—was solidified. The kids in her neighborhood said she was the lucky kid who goes to prep school. "Scholarship? They could care less. To them I was rich because I went to prep school." On the other hand, "the rich white kids saw me as the scholarship kid."

While many of her classmates could walk to school, the Roses had to rise at 4:45 a.m. to be on the subway by six and at school by 7:30. Once, on a weekend trip to a classmate's country house, Tricia got lost on the way from her bedroom to the kitchen. When she finally found an intercom, "I had, like a rescue team," she recalls with a laugh. To a girl for whom luxury was having her own bedroom, the opulence was "just astonishing."

"It's not a happy thing about your childhood, to say you were always conscious about being on the outside, but there's a sense in which that's true," Rose says. Underlying these early lessons in what it means to belong was Rose's natural disposition, "not really to be in something, but to kind of watch it," as she describes it. "I'd go out dancing and be thinking about the politics of space. It's just how I came into the world." This cerebral, analytic approach, combined with a profound capacity for empathy, underlay her intellectual and emotional development. She does get angry about what she sometimes observes, and she will call people out for their ignorance, but she doesn't blame them for it. She knows that the rich kids at Dalton were just as much a product of the racial and economic system of the time as she was.

While at Dalton, Rose fell in love with basketball. A ruthlessly competitive player—she is a member of the school's hall of fame—she practiced her game during the weekends on

the courts near Co-op City. It was here that the soundtrack to her life took its most significant turn. This was the era of the boom box, that plastic-and-electronic behemoth that teenagers would hoist onto their shoulders as they paraded around the neighborhood. They would always stop over at the basketball courts. Equal parts sports venue, community center, and performance space, the courts crowded with "people coming up with rhymes, and people trying to bust a move, and writing in their draft books, Rose recalls."

This was a dire time for New York City. Years of white flight and the decline of the manufacturing sector gutted the city's tax base, leading to a downward spiral: those who could leave, did, and those who couldn't were left with no job prospects and a frayed safety net. (*The Daily News's* famous headline "Ford to City: Drop Dead" hit newsstands in 1975.) The construction of the Cross Bronx Expressway and decades of slum clearance programs had displaced hundreds of thousands of working-class families, disrupted social support networks, and led to the abandonment of entire neighborhoods and the widespread arson

that became the very symbol of the South Bronx.

Out of this wreckage, Rose argues in *Black Noise*, hip-hop was born. "At a time when budget cuts in school music programs drastically reduced access to traditional forms of instrumentation and composition, inner-city youths increas-

Underlying early lessons in what it means to belong was **Rose's natural disposition, "not really to be in something, but to kind of watch it,"** as she describes it. "It's just how I came into the world."

ingly relied on recorded sound....[H]ip hop artists transformed obsolete vocational skills from marginal occupations into the raw materials for creativity."

As Rose details in *Black Noise*, rather than work as an auto mechanic, Jamaican DJ Kool Herc used his trade school skills to build his massive Herculords speakers, which revolutionized the kind of backbeats that could be played outdoors. As Rose witnessed on the basketball courts in her neighborhood, without community centers and music venues—which had been shuttered and bulldozed by the thousands—new artists performed outside. "Early DJs would connect their turntables and speakers to any available electrical source, including street lights," Rose writes, "turning public parks and streets into impromptu parties and community centers."

It was at these parties and on these basketball courts that young, urban, poor kids of color—often children of immigrants who watched their parents' dreams of a better life wither on the vine—had their say. With rapping and rhyming and break dancing and graffiti, they turned their pent-up frustrations and anger and hope into something beautiful. Hip-hop culture, born of society's neglect, became a source of "communal pleasure," as Rose writes. It also gave young people the space to talk back, as when, in 1989, the rapper KRS-One used his music to point a finger at the police and ask, "Who Protects Us From You?"

Rose was a senior in high school when the Sugarhill Gang's "Rapper's Delight" climbed to number thirty-six on the pop-music charts, becoming the first major rap hit. Before then, Rose says, "I just thought [rapping] was like Double Dutch or something. You hang out, you talk junk, and you rhyme. Then when 'Rapper's Delight' came out, I was like, 'Huh. It's on the radio.' The radio is like where real music was. How the heck did it get over there? It's like it went through this magical Wizard of Oz thing."

Even after Rose left the Bronx for Yale, she kept a close eye on emerging hip-hop culture. She wrote her senior thesis about rap music. When she graduated and got a job at the New Haven Housing Authority, she would still go to the library after work and read *Billboard* and think about hip-hop. "Every other music that I had been invested in had a huge

history: R&B, classical, jazz, blues, funk, soul," she says. "This thing shows up in my lifetime, while I'm a teenager, and then becomes a huge phenomenon. I was stunned. How did this happen? And what happens to it, in this process? That's what really fascinated me."

Still, after *Black Noise*, Rose says she felt done: "I didn't want to write another book on hip-hop." It was during this period of intellectual searching that she met Willis, whom she credits with helping her achieve a profound shift in thought, a movement, as she puts it, from diagnosis to vision, "from what is wrong to what is wrong and what is right."

Despite this development, Rose hasn't let go of the anger toward the system that drove her earlier work. "I'm still pissed off about it all," she says. "History and racism and sexism. Economic inequity." The difference is that now she asks herself, "What do you do with that anger? It really will kill you. Yeah, you fight for justice, but you gotta live around in the meantime." How do you do that? "It's all about interpersonal relationships," she says, "how you craft your relationships with other people. That was an intellectual question for me."

Her 2003 book, *Longing to Tell*, dedicated to "believers of justice in intimacy," is a compilation of the narratives of twenty black women as they talk in their own words about their intimate relationships. Reading the voices of these women—young and old, immigrant and U.S.-born, gay and straight—you can almost watch Rose developing and honing in on her current intellectual preoccupation with intimate black social spaces. "We know

that structural oppression—whether it's gendered, class, racial—impacts people as individuals," Rose says. "But the response to that is not always a direct response. It's about how you craft relationships that create buffers. I'm interested in the nexus between how personal relationships can add another corrosive level—how it can be internalized, to some degree—but it can also be a place of healing and safety and alternative comfort." From the stories of Sarita, struggling to make her boyfriend, Malcolm, understand that a man who catcalls on the street should apologize to her, not him

"Isn't it hypocritical for artists to glamorize their history of drug dealing ... and then use the monies generated from perpetuating these images to support stay-in-school efforts and bone-marrow drives?"

Although then a teenager, Tricia Rose found her subject when "Rapper's Delight," by the Sugarhill Gang (right), climbed the pop charts. She was astounded to hear her neighborhood's street music on the airwaves.



("as if I'm Malcolm's property," she says), and Linda Rae, who was diagnosed with HIV after years of drug addiction and prostitution, the book gives equal weight to the small slights and the big blows, the everyday comforts and the most profound of connections.

As Willis says, "What I think she's asking is, 'How can we do justice, not only in intimate spaces in terms of couplehood, but how do our intimate spaces, our home lives, affect justice in the wider scope? How does love at home affect love in the world, and vice versa?'"

In 2001, after the black feminist theorist bell hooks—a fierce academic with a razor-sharp mind—published her book of essays, *All About Love: New Visions*, the chatter among some scholars, as hooks herself pointed out at the time, was "bell is getting soft." Rose knows exactly what hooks was going through—and why her project mattered. Toni Morrison's 2005 novel, *Love*, picked up the same thread. "Love is an incredibly political act," Rose says.

These issues also drive Rose's next project, a study of intimate justice in the works of several writers and artists. The book is still taking shape but will include chapters on Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun*, on James Baldwin, and on the music of such neosoul musicians as Michelle N'degocello and Erykah Badu. Songs like Badu's 1997 "Tyrone," in which Badu takes down an immature boyfriend who doesn't pull his weight, bring to the forefront what Rose calls "the relentlessly personal, intimate black social sphere."

Rose sees works like these as an alternative to what rap and hip-hop have become. The combination of political awareness and musical innovation that Badu embodies in "Tyrone"—the very characteristics that originally inspired Rose about rap music—have been less and less in evidence over the last decade. Hip-hop no longer talks about such politically important issues as police brutality and black power. In fact, it seems increasingly to be doing the opposite: promoting the thug life of selling drugs and exploiting women, of demeaning education and making as much money as possible, no matter the personal cost.

Finally overcoming her reluctance to revisit the subject, in 2007 she sat down to write *The Hip Hop Wars*. Somebody has to be willing to say these things, Rose says. Someone "who is not getting paid by the industry, who doesn't expect to ever get a dollar from them, who doesn't care if they call me names. I'm old enough, you know, I really don't care. They can hate me. Young people could never talk to me again. But I'm convinced that what I'm saying is in the spirit of love and

possibility, and if you can't see it, I love you anyway."

The book levels its criticism at both sides of the debate. Rose certainly holds rappers to account. She sounds profoundly disappointed and sad when she identifies "hip-hop's commercial trinity of the gangsta, pimp, and ho." "Isn't it hypocritical," she writes, "for artists to glamorize their history of drug dealing—deriving their earnings from endless tales about being gangstas who, for the most part, die young or spend most of their lives incarcerated, and pimps who revel in and exploit the objectified bodies of black women strippers and prostitutes—and then use the monies generated from perpetuating these images to support stay-in-school efforts and bone-marrow drives?"

But hip-hop's haters don't get a free pass, either. Rose argues that critics like Bill O'Reilly (who once compared Ludacris to Pol Pot) are short-sighted at best, disingenuous and racist at worst. Their "blatantly selective application of worries about violence" rings rather hollow, she points out, when they reserve these worries almost exclusively for art produced by black people. "A vivid example of this," she writes, was when George W. Bush "said it was 'sick' to produce a record that he said glorified the killing of police officers" and then gladly accepted the campaign endorsement of Arnold Schwarzenegger, "whose character in the movies *Terminator* and *Terminator II: Judgment Day* kills or maims dozens of policemen." Again and again, Rose cuts to the quick with the book's key insight: that when we talk about hip-hop, what we're really talking about is "poor, young black people and ... the context and reasons for their clearly disadvantaged lives." Hating hip hop, in other words, is really a way of blaming the black community for its problems, and sidesteps the positive steps that we could be taking to address them.

Despite its bellicose title, *The Hip Hop Wars* is, in the end, a book about love. But it's a more complicated, grown-up love than the love of hip-hop in *Black Noise*. As Rose explains in the last chapter of the new book, *Black Noise* was a work of affirmational love: the kind of unconditional support that "affirms us fundamentally," no matter our flaws. Her new outlook has expanded, crucially, to include transformational love, "a love that pushes us past our comfort zone, that demands we wrestle with standards and challenges growth in the interests of [our] well-being."

More than street cred or violence, more than pimps and hos and guns and drugs, Tricia Rose is here to tell you that it's love that keeps it real. B

BETH SCHWARTZAPFEL is a BAM contributing editor.



The Blue Room Game

How a group of students went from **learning**
to play poker in the basement of Faunce
House to winning **millions** as
tournament pros.

BY RYAN GOLDBERG '05
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRAD HINES

Scott Seiver is one of two recent grads to earn a World Series of Poker bracelet.

He plays mostly online, where he favors the super-high stakes contests known as nosebleed games.



It all started in Faunce House.

I know, because I was there. Between 2003 and 2005, if you walked past the downstairs lounge, you might have heard the rustle and clatter of poker chips as they were tossed into a pot. The chips were part of what became known as the Blue Room Game, even though it was played in the Faunce basement. I was one of the regulars. I'd sit for a game with a nervous stomach, feeling a mix of anxiety and anticipation, knowing I'd need to play my utter best.

This was no ordinary poker game. It attracted some of the smartest, most ambitious students on campus. Many were double concentrators. One of the regulars now has a PhD in chemistry. Several, including the founder who ran the game during those years, are now successful Wall Street traders. ("When I look at what those in that game have gone on to do," the man says, asking to protect his job by being identified simply as a member of the class of 2005, "everyone pretty much went out and just did so well in their individual fields.") But what's most remarkable about the Blue Room Game is how it became the training ground for a few of the most successful professional poker players to have emerged over the past couple of years. In fact, you could say that the Blue Room Game turned Brown into the Ivy League's poker powerhouse.

The most successful of these new players is Isaac Haxton '08. Haxton, who grew up in Syracuse, New York, began playing chess at four and later became one of the country's best players in Magic: The Gathering, a complex collectible card game invented in 1993 by a mathematician named Richard Garfield. At eighteen Haxton started playing in small-stakes Limit Texas Hold-'Em poker games at the Turning Stone resort and casino in upstate New York. He approached poker just as he did his academic interests: he read everything about it he could find. At Brown, Haxton occasionally dropped in on the Blue Room Game and began playing in earnest online. He started with twenty-five-cent Limit Hold-'Em games and was soon playing online about

twenty hours a week, working his way up to higher-stakes tables. The summer after his freshman year, Haxton devoted himself to poker full-time, earning about \$40,000. A year later, his earnings had climbed to \$500,000.

Before starting his junior year, Haxton persuaded his parents—his father is a creative-writing professor at Syracuse University and his mother is a doctor—to let him take a year off from his studies to devote himself to poker. In January 2007, Haxton, along with Blue Room Game veterans Scott Seiver '07 and Jared Okun '07, flew to the Bahamas to play in a tournament called the PokerStars Caribbean Adventure. The game was No-Limit Texas Hold-'Em. The No-Limit part means you are free at any time to "go all-in"—that is, to bet your entire stack of chips. The strategy is to put intense pressure on your opponent, forcing him to match your huge bet or to fold his cards. But any hand can be your last.

This was no ordinary poker game. It attracted some of the smartest, most ambitious students on campus. Many were double concentrators. One of the regulars now has a PhD in chemistry. Several are now successful Wall Street traders.



Vying with some of the world's best pros, Haxton progressed through the tournament, amassing a huge chip lead in the \$7,800-buy-in event on his way to the final table. The Travel Channel, whose televising of World Poker Tour events helped lead a surge in poker popularity over the past decade, filmed the action. Haxton's long hair, dark glasses, and fearless demeanor briefly earned him the nickname "The Lizard King," for his resemblance to Jim Morrison of The Doors. (He has since cut his hair.) Haxton finished second, earning \$861,789. He had arrived as one of poker's newest young guns.

Haxton returned to Brown and finished his degree, switching his concentration from computer science to philosophy with an emphasis in logic and science. He now lives in Las Vegas, where he spends some of his time playing in casinos and most of his time playing online. In May, he began playing in the 2009 World Series of Poker (WSOP), the game's premier tournament (ESPN televises this one), at the Rio Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. On June 1, only five days into the seven-week-long WSOP, Haxton finished second to



SCOTT SEIVER '07

RESIDENCE Panorama Towers, Las Vegas
CONCENTRATION Computer Science & Economics
TOURNAMENT WINNINGS \$1,276,441
CASH GAME WINNINGS ~1,000,000
WSOP BRACELETS One

JARED OKUN '07

RESIDENCE condominium, Las Vegas
CONCENTRATION Computer Science & Economics
TOURNAMENT WINNINGS \$792,579
CASH GAME WINNINGS ~\$100,000
WSOP BRACELETS None

ISAAC HAXTON '08

RESIDENCE Panorama Towers, Las Vegas
CONCENTRATION Philosophy: Logic & Science
TOURNAMENT WINNINGS \$2,639,233
CASH GAME WINNINGS ~\$2,000,000
WSOP BRACELETS None

Vitaly Lunkin in the \$40,000-buy-in No-Limit Texas Hold-'Em event, winning \$1,168,566. Three weeks later, in the \$10,000 buy-in Pot-Limit Hold-'Em tournament, he finished eighth, winning \$82,668. As I write this, the WSOP is still in progress, and Haxton has so far earned almost \$1.3 million there. In his short poker career, he has earned more than \$2.5 million playing tournament poker. (This doesn't include his online earnings.) He is indisputably one of the world's best young professional poker players.

When I joined the Blue Room Game shortly after it began, I was struck by the characteristics the lower Faunce lounge shared with a casino. The setting was simple and without windows. The rectangular tables fit together perfectly and were covered with dark green felt. There were no clocks, and an ATM machine two dozen paces down the hall stood ready for anyone wanting a do-over. A small television hanging in the corner offered additional entertainment; on Sundays we watched football while playing. Players could buy refresh-



Jared Okun keeps his game face on during the first day of the 2009 Foxwoods Poker Classic. In a field of 259 players, he failed to finish in the money.

ments at the concession stand; on a slow night the cashier would post a handwritten note saying he'd return shortly and then sit and play for a bit.

"I don't think anybody ever bothered us once," recalls one player. "I can't remember the campus police ever telling us to stop the game. And they definitely walked by."

Most of the players were male and friendly—I'd known several of them since freshman year—but also serious. One of the regulars was Seiver, a computer science and economics double concentrator. At the 2008 WSOP, Seiver won the \$5,000 buy-in No-Limit Hold-'Em event, earning him \$755,891. More importantly, perhaps, the victory earned him the diamond-encrusted bracelet that is the poker equivalent of a Super Bowl ring. Card players are defined by it, and even Haxton has so far been unable to earn one.

Seiver joined the Blue Room Game midway during its first semester. He had never played poker before. "I knew absolutely nothing," he says. "I was going to Faunce for chess club and saw you guys playing the game."

Okun joined several weeks later, after he saw an announcement on the Daily Jolt, the online message board, inviting players to the game. He had played poker a few times growing up in Tampa, Florida, so he joined the game with his roommate. Okun, also a double concentrator in computer science and economics, is not far behind Haxton and Seiver as one of today's bright young players. The high points of his career so far have been a \$110,000 purse from an online tournament and his sixth-place finish in a 2007 U.S. Poker Championship event.

Another regular in those early years was Mike Graves '06, who would become the first Brown alumnus to earn a WSOP bracelet. He won it in the \$1,000-buy-in No-Limit Hold-'Em event in 2007. The payout was \$741,121, enough that he could afford to go to medical school. Now on a break from poker, Graves is about to begin his last year at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School.

During the 2004–05 academic year, the Blue Room Game grew like a storm on warm and open water. Mirroring the

larger popularity of televised No-Limit Texas Hold-'Em, poker swept across campus. The Blue Room Game met four days a week with as many as thirty players sitting at three tables. Friday was most popular; the first cards were dealt at 2 pm, and the game lasted for six hours or more. (One player joked that you couldn't take afternoon classes for fear of finding yourself on the waiting list.) The e-mail announcing the game went out to more than a hundred people.

Mostly we played No-Limit Hold-'Em. Because No-Limit pots can contain all a player's chips, bluffs are especially risky. No-Limit poker players like to say that reading your opponent is much more important than reading your cards. Fearlessness, controlled aggression, and the ability to keep a steely face even as your pulse races are essential. You bet with the knowledge that despite holding inferior cards you can still win a pot by forcing your opponent to back down. Players look for "tells" in the faces and body language of their opponents: tics that can indicate a bluff or a strong hand. This

is why so many players wear dark glasses at the table to hide their eyes.

Seiver exuded fearlessness from the moment he joined the game. He was a tremor disturbing a serene environment. He changed the dynamic of the game more than any other player. In the beginning his bravado lost him more chips than he won. But he introduced a more intense psychological component to the Blue Room Game, needling opponents and trying to talk them into folding or calling. He was reckless, fiery, and emotional. More importantly, he was creative and could not be intimidated. He was an original.

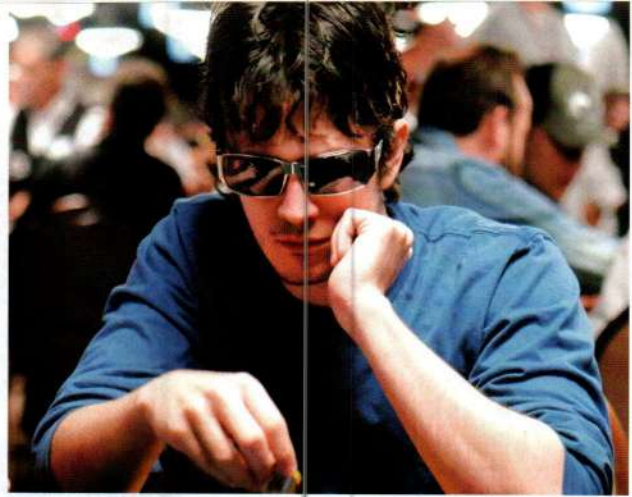


"I was being kind of crazy," Seiver admits. "I always tried to come up with absurd ideas to try out. I remember thinking I was hot shit, but I was actually pretty terrible." He adds, "I remember playing silly little mind games with people. I tried to take them out of their comfort zone."

Away from poker Seiver was funny, kind, and eager, often a stark contrast to his poker persona. His wild, curly hair and boisterous personality were the perfect opposite of Okun's

The Blue Room Game "wasn't about the money," says Ben Resnick '06, a successful online pro. "The Blue Room Game wasn't about the poker. It was a matrix for everything else," such as friendships and community.

Just weeks after losing \$2 million online, Isaac Haxton won much of it back at the 2009 World Series of Poker in Las Vegas this spring.



long, dark hair and pensive, methodical approach (which was intimidating in its own way). Yet the two became close friends, especially after they realized they were in almost every class together.

Seiver and Okun threw themselves into the study of poker, and they weren't the only ones. By the spring of 2005, many of the players were improving. Poker increasingly became a passion, the glue binding our friendships. After the Friday games, we'd go to Hillel for a free community dinner and then continue on to the Graduate Center bar. All the while we talked poker: who played well that night and who didn't. We dissected hands, and boasted that our winnings on the big stage of tournament poker lay just around the corner. Fortunately, none of us became dropouts losing all of our money online. Somehow we managed to keep our passion from becoming an addiction and ruining our lives.

One reason is that, despite the competition, we kept the games fun. "It wasn't about the money," says Ben Resnick '06, a religious studies and literary arts concentrator who was a regular player. "The Blue Room Game wasn't about the poker. It was a matrix for everything else," such as friendships and community.

Okun was in charge of the game from 2005 until he handed off control in the spring of 2007. He moved it to the lounge of Barbour, the dorm where he lived. Okun says he is more indebted to the Blue Room Game than anyone else. "It has affected my whole life," he says. He met his girlfriend, Brett Abarbanel '06, while playing against her. "I remember the first hand I played against her," he says, laughing. "She bluffed me and Scott out of a big pot." They began dating the following year and now live together in Las Vegas.

In fact, Okun and Seiver turned pro thanks to another chance encounter that grew out of the Blue Room Game. In 2005, while I was attending a College Democrats reception at the tail end of the school year, I met Bill Gazes, an accomplished veteran poker player. He was on campus visiting his girlfriend, a senior, and I recognized him from a televised tournament. When I told him this, he laughed and asked, "Did my girlfriend put you up to this?" I invited him to join me at a poker theory class that the founder of the Blue Room Game had created.

Okun was also at the class, and afterward he and Gazes talked about computer science. Okun introduced Gazes to Seiver, as well, and the three of them kept in touch. A friend-

ship developed, and Gazes offered to pay the two players' entry fees to try their hand at online and live tournaments while they were at Brown. As graduation approached, some of the players began to wonder if they should try playing full-time. Midway through his senior year, Okun debated a choice between a job on Wall Street and playing poker. He chose poker only after Gazes offered to back him financially and become his mentor. Their partnership continues today. Of Okun, Gazes says, "I saw in him a fire, but a calmness—somebody who could be cool under pressure, but had a burning desire to win."

After Seiver graduated, he began to collaborate with Haxton, whom he knew as a fellow member of Alpha Epsilon Pi. (Not surprisingly, Seiver's parents at first opposed his decision to turn pro.) The pair joined three other players—two of them from Brown—and rented a house outside Las Vegas to enter the 2007 World Series of Poker. Haxton used some of the money he had won in the Bahamas to help Seiver pay his way into the events. They played nonstop for six weeks. Every night they deconstructed their play that day. Of the two, Haxton did better, earning \$96,768 for a seventh-place finish in the \$1,000 buy-in No-Limit Hold-'Em event. They also watched Mike Graves win his bracelet.

Afterward, Haxton and Seiver returned to Providence, renting a house on Williams Street with their friend and fellow player Sam Edwards '08, a math concentrator. While Haxton and Edwards went back to school, Seiver played full-time on the Internet. "It takes a level of near-obsession to get anywhere near the top," Haxton says. "At some point you need to do nothing else for 100 hours a week."

Seiver maintained that pace for a year. Like an owl, he awoke at night and played into the morning. The three men created a poker office on the top floor of the house. It became a chaotic and collaborative laboratory, a Manhattan Project for online poker. "I had a desk," Haxton recalls, "and Sam had a desk, on two sides of the room. Scott stole the printer hutch from Sam's desk and put his laptop on it in the center of the room. His laptop was half off the edge of it. There was garbage everywhere. We were knee-deep in papers. There were half-empty bags of chips and dried fruit lying around everywhere."

Seiver's career had a rocky start. He lost nearly his entire \$150,000 bankroll after four months. He went from playing some of the highest-limit online **CONTINUED ON page 51**



Against All Odds: Success Stories

BY LAWRENCE GOODMAN

On the 24th of May, 2,157 students earned Brown degrees. As they sat on the College Green enduring a passing rain shower in their uniform caps and gowns, the graduates made a tableau of triumph and success.

But success is hardly uniform. For some it comes easily, while for others it requires a struggle. We all rightly hail the super-achievers with academia's codes of accomplishment: magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi. Less visible are the victories of those from whom college demanded an overhaul of the self, a reconciling of old assumptions and expectations with new insights and passions. Some students undertake this process voluntarily, but for others it's a response to adversity beyond their control.

What follows are profiles of four members of the class of 2009 who forged themselves during their time at Brown. These are young men and women who ran into potentially overwhelming obstacles and beat the odds. They are stories of courage and determination, of a newfound wisdom growing out of reflection and humility. They are a testament to the transformative power of a Brown education, and the generous heart of the students at its center.



**SCENES FROM BROWN'S
241st COMMENCEMENT** During
Baccalaureate, Amelia Rosenman '09
smiles appreciatively as the sounds
of music, poetry, and prayers
from around the globe fill the First
Baptist Church.



MANDEEP GILL

What to Be

Her father's illness made medicine seem the best career. But his death changed that.

WHEN MANDEEP GILL'S GRANDFATHER died in the 1950s, he left no male heirs. In the Punjab region in northwestern India, where the family lived, women were not permitted to own land. Gill's grandmother fought to hold onto a small piece of farmland, but she could not pass it down to the next generation, and the family was plunged into a subsistence existence.

So, in the late 1980s, Gill's parents sought a better life. They moved to California's Central Valley and found work as farm laborers. For the first three years of her life, Gill stayed in India with her grandparents,

also found a house for the family in Fresno. "That was her big American dream," Gill says. "She worked really, really hard for us to have a nice home."

Although their neighbors were mostly Punjabi, Gill attended a magnet high school across town that was racially and ethnically mixed. By her senior year she felt confident enough to insist that her father see a medical doctor. The diagnosis was Alzheimer's. The moment was transformative for Gill. "We'd been going to churches and temples and asking priests to help him, and where had that gotten us? Nowhere," she says. Her father



but when she was three she and her grandmother joined her parents in California, where Gill's father had been taken ill.

The family didn't know what was wrong—just that he was often disoriented, spoke only in short phrases, and frequently did not recognize them. "My mom didn't really know the medical system here, so she never got a proper diagnosis," Gill says. "She always went to Punjabi doctors, because that's what she knew."

Gill's mother sought solace in the family's Sikh religion. They went every day to a *gurdwara*, or Sikh temple, to socialize and pray for a miracle. "Obviously that wasn't going to happen," Gill says. By this time, her mother had a better job in a cotton factory. She had

died shortly after her high school graduation. She'd never been able to have a conversation with him.

Although her mom wanted her to go to nearby Fresno State, Gill chose Brown partly because "I wanted to have distance, a lot of distance," she says. "I knew I wanted to grow in a different direction."

Gill had planned to become a doctor. "If there had been someone who knew the medical system, there could have been some difference in his treatment, or even just his quality of life," Gill says. But sophomore year her chemistry classes proved harder than she'd expected, and her interests moved toward economics and international relations. She eventually chose to con- ►►

Honorary Degrees

RICHARD C. BARKER '57

Doctor of Humane Letters A trustee emeritus and chair of the Boldly Brown Campaign's financial aid initiative, he chairs the San Francisco Ballet's board and is former vice chair of Capital Group International.

MARY ELMENDORF

Doctor of Humane Letters A peace activist and anthropologist best known for her studies of Mayan women in Mexico, she was the first anthropologist hired on staff at the World Bank.

JERRY FISHMAN

Doctor of Science An engineer, he is president and chief executive officer of Analog Devices, which specializes in data conversion and signal conditioning technology.

JESSIE GRUMAN

Doctor of Humane Letters President of the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Advancing Health, she is the author of *Behavior Matters* and *AfterShock: What to Do When the Doctor Gives You—or Someone You Love—A Devastating Diagnosis*.

JIM YONG KIM '82

Doctor of Medical Science President-elect of Dartmouth College, he cofounded Partners In Health and headed the World Health Organization's HIV/AIDS initiative. He received a MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship in 2003.

Jim Yong Kim



DAVID SALTZMAN '84

Doctor of Humane Letters Executive director of New York City's Robin Hood Foundation, he formerly headed AIDS-education programs for the New York City Department of Health.

FAREED ZAKARIA

Doctor of Laws Editor of *Newsweek International* and a regular columnist for *Newsweek* magazine, he hosts CNN's *Fareed Zakaria GPS*, a weekly foreign affairs program. He is the author of *The Post American World* and *The Future of Freedom*.



History's Hinge

Baccalaureate speaker Fareed Zakaria offers a global vision of hope.

"THIS IS THE COOLEST BACCALAUREATE ceremony I've ever seen," declared Fareed Zakaria, the CNN host and editor of *Newsweek International*, from the pulpit of the First Baptist Church in America. Undoubtedly, the founders would have been dumbfounded by the service's multilingual program of music, prayers, dances, and poems representing a dozen faiths and cultures; but its energy and breadth clearly delighted the speaker, who was born in Mumbai, India, and is known for the scope and depth of his international understanding.

Although the U.S. military is fighting in two countries and the global economy is in a deep recession, Zakaria took a long, even optimistic, view of the world the graduates were entering. "You are at the hinge of history," he said, emphasizing how rare it is that the globe is not dominated by a serious conflict between superpowers. "You may think of this as an abstract idea, but peace is after all the bedrock of civilization.... Peace is a little bit like oxygen. When you have it you don't think a lot about it. But when you don't have it it's all you think about."

Yes, terrorism is a threat, he said, but it does not exact the toll war does.

Furthermore, terrorism "depends on you. If you are not terrorized, it doesn't work," he said. "Get out from under the beds. Resilience is the path to defeating this great scourge of our time."

This is not the world's first financial crash, Zakaria continued. He urged students to look past the current crisis to the past decade's economic growth. Over the last eight years, he said, 100 countries have grown at a rate of 4 percent a year or more. The diffusion of knowledge around the globe has created political and economic stability that has lifted millions of people out of abject poverty—400 million in the last year alone.

When people make dire predictions, they tend to forget about the human response, Zakaria said. "That's where I have my hope."

—CHARLOTTE BRUCE HARVEY '78



From top, Zakaria and Simmons march to Baccalaureate to the beat of African drums; inside the church, Hindu dancers pause.

▶▶ concentrate in economics. She also continued moving away culturally from her family. She stopped attending Sikh services. During spring break of her senior year, she went to Brazil and spent time with an indigenous community practicing Candomblé, a combination of Brazilian and African religions. "It's been an exploration," she says. Gill now calls herself a Christian and goes to church almost every Sunday.

She says it was agonizing to reject her mother's wish that she become a doctor. "When the seed was first planted in my mind to become a doctor, it was so I could help my family and my dad," Gill says. "But that didn't need to happen anymore after he passed away. So what was my reason for being a doctor anymore? There was no reason in the end."

In the fall, Gill will begin work as an investment management analyst at J. P. Morgan in New York City. Her mother, who now works as a school janitor, is not thrilled, Gill says, because she still sees medicine as the surest route to prosperity. Gill feels bad, but she believes she is continuing her family tradition of women trying to build better, more prosperous lives for themselves and their families. She is like her grandmother: challenging the old order, going forward as a pioneer.

RAKIM BROOKS

Blessed

His grandmother's legacy was books.

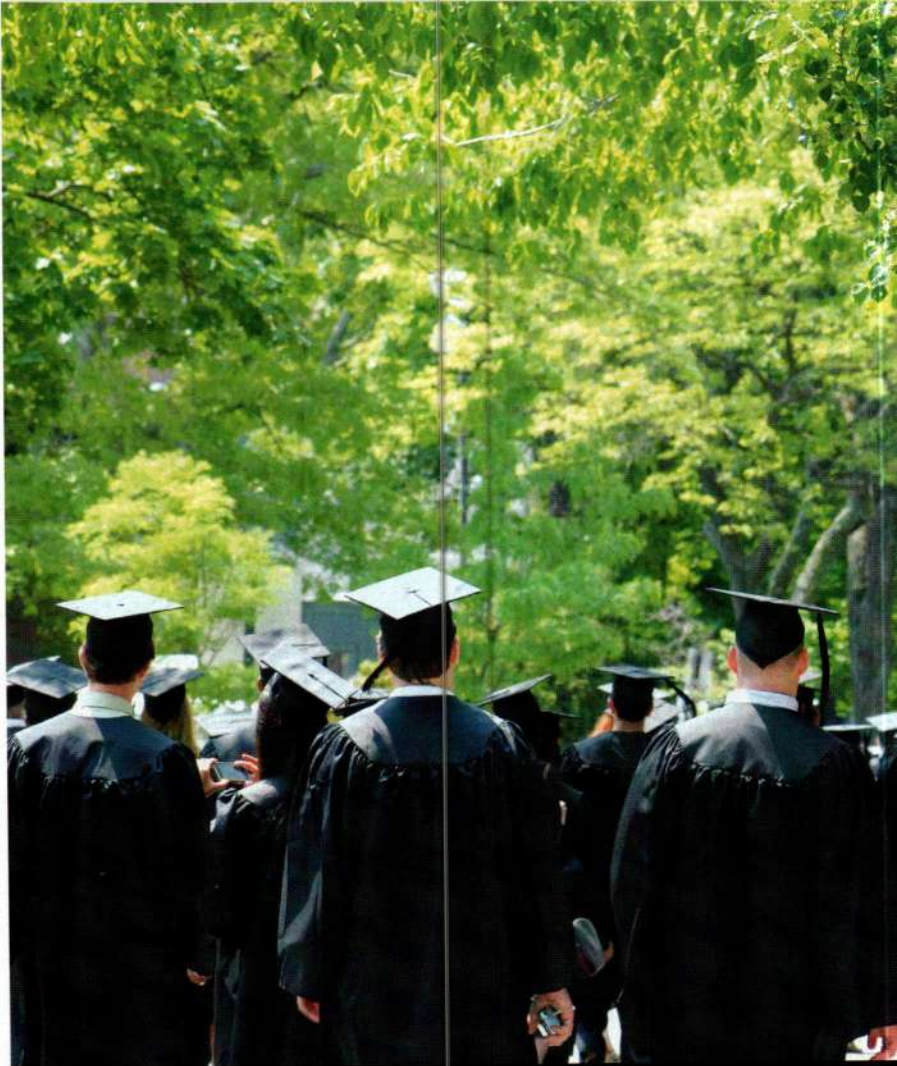
"I WAS THE KID WHO DIDN'T HAVE THINGS," says Rakim Brooks. "Now it's different. I'm the kid who used to not have things." Raised in a Manhattan housing project by a blind grandmother and a mom who worked as a subway conductor, he heads to Oxford next fall as a Rhodes Scholar.

When Brooks was in kindergarten, his teacher recommended him for a gifted program at a nearby public school. Brooks's mother moved to the Bronx, while he stayed with his grandmother, who lived nearer his new school. For an intellectually curious kid, her apartment was an ideal environment, filled with books—from Stephen King to Charles Dickens. Brooks recalls his grandmother reading to him when he was young. "She was really the most profound intellectual influence I think I had," Brooks says. "It was this desire to please her." By the time he was eight, though, his grandmother had lost her sight from glaucoma. "I think that was ▶▶

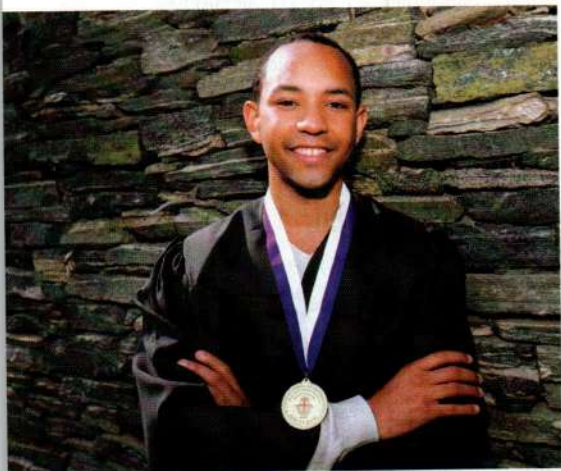
▶▶ one of the saddest points of her life," he says. "She loved to read."

At Brown, Brooks scoured the course catalog, looking for classes that would challenge him and expand his worldview. "My friends said I was the course catalog," he says. "I could pretty much tell you any course that was being listed at Brown." He had intended to study applied math, but after taking an Africana studies course on race and slavery, he felt he'd found his intellectual home. "It gave me a rich sense of the intellectual history of African Americans and the African diaspora," he says. His professors posed "a series of questions and claims about American democracy and western liberalism. I began to question in fundamental ways things we almost take for granted."

Brooks took classes on slavery, racism, colonialism, and segregation. He says he was cynical as a teenager, and learning about America's long, ugly history of oppression could have made him even more so. Instead, he says, he emerges from his time at Brown hopeful. "I have no idea what the experience of segregation was like, but I know [African Americans] managed to remain deeply opti-



ON A LUMINOUS SATURDAY afternoon, the seniors don caps and gowns over their flip flops and head downhill to Baccalaureate. Below, later that afternoon President Simmons congratulates Adam Swartzbaugh '09, '09 AM, who received his U.S. Army commission from Theodore Low '49, rear, at a ceremony in front of University Hall.



mistic about what could happen with this country and the world," he says. "I think I take that into the world with me." This matches his own personal experience: "I have had a series of fortunate events in my life. If I have that sense, it's very hard to be cynical. It means change is possible."

At Oxford, Brooks plans to earn both a master's and a doctorate in political theory and then return to the United States for a law degree. He imagines a career as a law professor and legal advocate for the poor. "One of my goals is to give back to the people in the kind of communities I came from," he says. "I feel very strongly about this: There but for the grace of God go I."



CHELSEA LEIN

Elder Care

A family crisis leads to a career in community health.

IN THE FALL OF 2005 CHELSEA LEIN WAS, as she puts it, a "bright-eyed freshman." Then her grandparents became ill, and her mother, a single parent who works full-time and was raising Lein's teenage brother, couldn't provide the around-the-clock care that her parents now needed. "I had so many phone calls from my mom," Lein says, "where she was just in tears from how difficult it was to be a caretaker and breadwinner. In spite of how much I was enjoying it at Brown, it really hit me that I needed to go home and help out."

Lein flew back to Minneapolis and took up residence on her grandparents' couch. In retrospect, she says, "I really had no idea what I was in for." She had to feed, dress,

weeks, Lein became exhausted, twice tripping down a flight of stairs. Once she stumbled right into a commode. "Thank God it was empty," she says.

After two-and-a-half months, she was burnt out. The doctors said her grandmother might live anywhere from a few weeks to several more years. On the verge of a breakdown, Lein decided to return to Brown. Her mother and a few other relatives would try to pick up the burden. "I left Minnesota not knowing what was going to happen," she says.

Just one day later, her grandmother died peacefully at home. It was devastating, of course, but Lein was comforted by having

READ MORE profiles of graduates
at brownalumnimagazine.com.



and bathe her grandmother, who was incontinent and lapsing into dementia. She "had lost her ability to walk, but not her desire to get up and try," says Lein, who had to watch her constantly. Then there were the tunneling bed wounds in her grandmother's back, which Lein had to fill with medicated pads. "I had always thought of myself as someone with a weak stomach," she says. Not anymore.

Her grandfather, meanwhile, had broken his hip and, thanks to pain and depression, became verbally abusive. He told Lein she'd always been a burden to her mother. Within

helped at the end of her life. As a baby, Lein had been tended by her grandparents while her mother set up a home in Minnesota. "I just think it was beautiful and cyclic that I was able to take care of my grandmother at the end of her life just as she had taken care of me at the beginning of mine," Lein says.

Still, back at Brown Lein suffered bouts of insomnia, and when she did sleep she had nightmares. "I was haunted from the things I'd witnessed while caring for my grandmother," she says. Whenever her roommate turned over in her bed during the night, Lein awoke instantly, imagining it was ▶▶

AS GRADUATES MUG for the camera, actor Dustin Hoffman is among the proud parents filming the pageantry. Brown awarded 1,443 bachelor's degrees, 395 master's degrees, and 187 doctorates at Commencement.

▶▶ her grandmother needing help.

Lein was diagnosed with mild post-traumatic stress disorder. What kept her in school, she says, was remembering how thrilled people back home had been when she'd been accepted at Brown. No one in her family had ever attended college. She was the first student from her school to make it into the Ivy League. "I thought of all the people who had placed bets on me back in Minnesota," she says. "I couldn't turn my back on them."

In fall 2006, Lein took a community health

class. "It changed my life," she says. The course focused on gaps in U.S. health-care coverage. One she knew firsthand was the shortage of at-home care for the elderly.

Lein officially graduates in December, then plans to go to law school to become a legal advocate for senior citizens. "I love the elderly. I don't know how else to put it," she says. "Just as we show caring and compassion to people when they enter the world, we need to show caring and compassion to them when they leave it."

A Minute and a Lifetime

The class of 1959 reflects on fifty years.

ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON of Commencement weekend, a group of classmates from the fiftieth-reunion class gathered to discuss the divergent directions their lives had taken since leaving Brown. Their stories seemed to encompass many of the social changes and conflicts the country has faced since 1959.

While Philip DiSaia was serving as a doctor in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War, for example, his classmate Jane Pincus was protesting that same war and, as a founding member of the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, was writing and editing the landmark book *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, which she has continued to edit ever since.

Pincus recalled the late 1960s as a time when "there was a feeling in the air that something needed to be changed, that the world needed to be changed, and that we could do it." She said the first *Our Bodies, Ourselves* was cobbled together from articles written by women and printed on newsprint. "It was never meant to be a book. It was meant to be a way of sharing information. The book today has sold more than four million copies and been translated into eighteen languages. DiSaia, who is now president of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, went on to become a professor of

FRANK NUZZO

Working-Class Scholar

At first he felt like an imposter at Brown, but a year off showed him otherwise.

IT WAS WHILE RIDING ON THE BACK OF A garbage truck, staring into a crusher full of maggots, dirty diapers, and other trash that Frank Nuzzo had his epiphany. "I was thinking, 'Oh my God, I was just at Brown, one of the best schools in the entire world and then like that, in a flash, here I am throwing garbage in 100-degree weather,'" he says. "I just felt such a sense of shame."

His life was never the same again.

Nuzzo grew up in Everett, Massachusetts, a blue-collar city north of Boston. His mother worked two jobs—one as a preschool aide and one as a sales clerk at a store selling Christmas decorations—and his father was a ramp coordinator at Logan Airport. Everyone in Everett knew about Nuzzo. A running

back and linebacker, he was the star of his high school football team. He'd been named the 2003 Gatorade Massachusetts Player of the Year and the 2003 *Boston Globe* and *Boston Herald* Division 1 player of the year. The University of Massachusetts, Stanford, and Northeastern all recruited him, some offering full tuition. But he chose Brown even though he would have to pay more out of pocket. "We sat down," Nuzzo says, "and my parents told me, 'We will sacrifice for this. We will work harder. We want you to take this opportunity.'"

From the start, though, Nuzzo felt he didn't fit in at Brown. He arrived at class with pen and paper; the students around him had laptop computers. Although ▶▶



Jane Pincus

gynecologic oncology at UC Irvine, and ovarian cancer researcher. "Ovarian cancer is a real tiger," he said.

Classmate Joan Appel Lester became a researcher on Native Americans. Lester described her journey from being "blissfully ignorant of how a Native American wo

respond to what I was saying" to someone with the "ability to see through more than one lens." She is now a lecturer in American studies at Tufts University. "It's been a privilege to touch the edge of another culture," she said.

Among the more colorful speakers was Clark Sammartino, an oral surgeon turned professional boxing referee. He wowed the crowd with stories about great prize fights he'd refereed over the years. He began in the 1980s, judging boxing matches for the local police athletic league, and moved on to championship fights around the world. "There are more characters in boxing than there are anywhere in the world," he said. He lamented the decline of the sport. "Let's face it," he said, "there's no mother today who holds her baby in her hands and says, 'I want you to be a boxer.'"

In the end, it was Lester who best reflected the spirit of the day. "Here we are fifty years later," she said. "A minute and a lifetime."

-L.G.

Do you have an interesting life story? Describe it to us in an e-mail. Send it to alumni_magazine@brown.edu



A SERENE SCENE AWAITS Campus Dance Friday afternoon (top). As night falls, Samantha Gillison, left, and Carmela Marner, both '89, connect with friends by cell phone. Sunday morning, medical students approach their final rotation, a stroll through the Van Wickle Gates and graduation ceremonies in Providence's First Unitarian Church. Along the way, President Simmons delivers a warm hug. At its thirty-fifth Commencement, the Warren Alpert Medical School awarded ninety MDs.



►► he'd been at the top of his high school class he wasn't prepared him for the rigor of Brown. He was self-conscious about his clothes. "They wore penny loafers and I'm wearing these two-year-old Nikes," Nuzzo says. "I felt like people looked at me and said, 'Why is he here?'"

"Out of my shame and my embarrassment, I was hostile," he says. "I was stereotyping. I was pretty much doing to them what I thought they were doing to me." He shot his fellow students dirty looks; he even picked fights. He joined a fraternity and partied and drank. A lot. He began skipping classes and didn't study for exams. By the end of sophomore year, he was failing. Asked to leave for a year, he went home, he says, "fairly certain I would never come back to the Brown campus again."

One morning soon after his epiphany on the garbage truck, he woke around three and watched his father leave for his job at the airport, something he'd been doing for the past thirty years. Nuzzo thought to himself: "Look at your family sacrificing for you and this is how you thank them." He resolved to return to Brown.

This time he shrugged the chip off his shoulder. He made friends. "I started realizing these are amazing people," he says. He no longer felt ashamed of his background. "Some of my closer friends, they go back home to estates," he says. "I go back to Everett, and that's okay. I learned that." His grades improved.

In the spring of 2008, Nuzzo suffered a concussion during football practice. He'd had concussions before, but this one was severe. Fearing that another hit might kill him, he quit the game. It was, he says, one of the hardest decisions he's made. "I was so used to people cheering for me," he says, "and all of a sudden when that goes away, you're alone."

With more free time, he studied harder. Sociology classes helped him understand the role his parents had played in his life and how his socioeconomic status had shaped him. Those things, he says, make you who you are and shape the way you see the world.

"He has made the difficult transition from his working-class background to successful scholar without betraying his roots in the former and without feeling like an impostor in the latter," sociology professor Gregory Elliott writes of Nuzzo. No mean trick.

Nuzzo plans to become an entrepreneur. "I'm just in a very good place right now," he says, "a very good state of mind." **B**

ARTS & CULTURE

BOOKS MUSIC ART THEATER DANCE NEW MEDIA FILM



John Krasinski '01 and Maya Rudolph play a couple seeking a "Huck Finn-y" home for their baby.

Here They Come

Director Sam Mendes assembles a reunion's worth of alums for *Away We Go*. BY BETH SCHWARTZAPFEL '01

[MOVIE] *Away We Go*, starring John Krasinski '01 and Josh Hamilton '91; cinematography by Ellen Kuras '81; musical direction by Randall Poster '84; editing by Sarah Flack '89.

WHEN JOHN KRASINSKI FIRST READ THE SCRIPT FOR *AWAY WE GO*, he thought, "Oh, he's just a nice guy. I've played a nice guy before." But like everything else about this film—which both is and isn't what it seems—Krasinski's character is indeed a nice guy. Just not in the way you'd expect.

A collaboration between novelist Dave Eggers and Oscar-winning director Sam Mendes, *Away We Go* is a quirky comedy

that will have you laughing so hard your stomach hurts. Yet its heart is as big and as complicated as any drama's. It's a movie about an unexpected pregnancy, but Krasinski recalls Mendes saying, "The one thing I don't want anyone to think is that this is a pregnancy movie." Over the course of the film, Krasinski's character—the big-hearted, just-a-little-bit-dopey father-to-be, Burt—manages to become a wiser grown-up without losing his endearing childlike earnestness.

Several Brown alums known for their work on critically acclaimed art films collaborated on *Away We Go*: Ellen Kuras (*Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*) was the cinematographer, Randall Poster (*Darjeeling Limited*) supervised the music, Sarah Flack (*Lost in Translation*) was the film's editor, and Josh Hamilton costarred. Kuras finds the Brown connection unsurprising: Brown "is not just academia for academia's sake," she says.



Maggie Gyllenhaal, center, and Josh Hamilton '91, right, play the couple's rigid lefty friends.

"It's about how to create meaning. It's about people, and life, and living in the world." She believes that sensibility meshed perfectly with Mendes's vision of a story that will make viewers laugh and think at the same time. "Sam Mendes must have an inner inclination towards Brown students," Kuras says. "He likes to work with smart people. Smart people who are genuine, good people."

The story follows Burt and his long-time girlfriend, Verona (played by *Saturday Night Live* star Maya Rudolph), who, upon discovering that they're going to be parents, set off on a journey across North America to find the perfect place to raise their baby. They have a few criteria: they want to live near people they love, and they want the kid's childhood to be, in Burt's words, "Huck Finn-y." And away they go, to Phoenix, Tucson, Madison, Montreal, and Miami, where their visits with family and friends—played by Josh Hamilton, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Jeff Daniels, and others—provide hilarious comic fodder while raising deeper questions about what it means to belong and what constitutes a happy family.

Although Burt and Verona are in their early thirties, *Away We Go* is very much a coming-of-age story. Krasinski, who is twenty-nine, says, "These are the conversations I'm having every night with my friends: 'Did I make the right choices? Am I the kind of person I want to be? Am I ready for kids? Why am I not married yet?'" The two characters look tentatively to the other couples they visit as role models (and anti-role models), but ultimately keep coming back to the person they want guidance from most: each other. The movie works because "you really feel the love between the two main characters," says Poster. "I think that the

palpability of that is really unique and powerful."

The film has an offbeat aesthetic and an obvious affection for the specificity of places. In each town the couple visits, the movie feels unmistakably there—from Miami's garish lights and riotous green to a sultry Montreal jazz club and Victorian houses. The sound track, which Poster and Mendes developed together, is plaintive without being morose, and includes more than one Bob Dylan song. Poster credits this to his recent collaboration with Todd Haynes '84 on the unconventional 2007 Dylan biopic, *I'm Not There*.

"None of the people from Brown who worked on this movie tend to work on very cookie-cutter movies," Poster says. "A lot of us have worked on mainstream projects, but we've all also cultivated and supported really artistic undertakings." And even with five Brown alums on the cast and crew, Poster says, "Sam Mendes was really the catalyst. He should really get an honorary degree for this one."

BETH SCHWARTZAPFEL is a contributing editor.



[ON EXHIBIT] Diane Arbus's 1970 "Family in Brooklyn" is among the 200 images in "The Art of Caring: A Look at Life Through Photography," on display at the New Orleans Museum of Art through October 19. The show traces photography's role in galvanizing social action, from documentarians W. Eugene Smith and Gordon Parks to contemporary photographers such as Nan Goldin and Annie Leibovitz and young, emerging artists. It was the brainchild of art collector **Zachary Morfogen '50**, the founder of two major U.S. hospice organizations.



"What does it take to be at home in nature?" Miranda Weiss asks in her Alaskan memoir.

True North

A lyrical memoir about what it takes to survive in Homer, Alaska. REVIEWED BY O'RYA HYDE-KELLER

[BOOK] *Tide, Feather, Snow: A Life in Alaska*, by Miranda Weiss '97 (Collins).

ALASKA IS AMERICA'S FINAL FRONTIER, A HARSH, mythic land that beckons seekers of everything from independence to remoteness to a stripped-down life spent closer to nature. Miranda Weiss is one of those seekers. Soon after graduating from Brown, Weiss, a Maryland native, moved to Homer, Alaska, a seaside community of 5,000, "in search of some indefinable hybrid of adventure, wilderness, and what I imagined to be a simpler life." Her new memoir describes her first few years there.

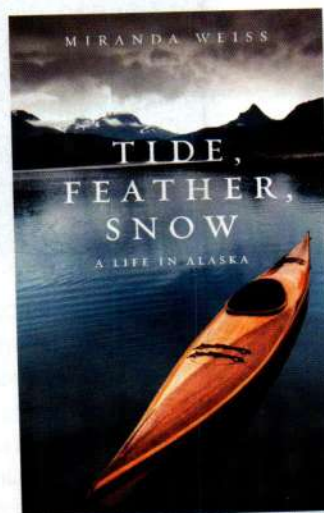
A biology concentrator at Brown, Weiss exudes passion for the natural world in her lyrical descriptions of land and sea, as in this passage about an

boyfriend, for example, he is here an occasional quick brush stroke on an otherwise meticulously painted canvas of moose tracks, spouting whales, and salmon runs. And while Homer seems overflowing with characters who would make a short-story writer swoon, Weiss dedicates only brief passages

to them. These pithy sketches may leave some readers wishing she had depicted the humans who populate her new world as dynamically as she portrays its birds, forests, and sea creatures.

But then, perhaps that is her intention. The land defines the people of Alaska. Only by gaining this intricate knowledge of the ecosystem around her can Weiss discover whether there is a place within it for her.

O'RYA HYDE-KELLER is a freelance writer in Providence.



Virtual Music

Surgeon Calvin Lee '93, '97 MD debuts at Carnegie Hall with the YouTube Symphony Orchestra. BY BETH SCHWARTZAPFEL '01

[MUSIC] REMEMBER THE JOKE ABOUT THE TOURIST WHO stops a New Yorker on the street to ask, "How do I get to Carnegie Hall?"

The answer? "Practice, practice, practice."

Maestro Michael Tilson Thomas, no stranger to Carnegie Hall, says the old joke has a new punch line: upload, upload, upload.

Calvin Lee did both.

On April 15, the fabled concert hall hosted the world premiere of the YouTube Symphony Orchestra, whose ninety-six members had auditioned and rehearsed on the Internet. Among the violinists that night was Lee, a Modesto, California, surgeon and acupuncturist.

Last December, YouTube invited musicians from all over the world to upload auditions for what the company billed as the world's first "collaborative online orchestra." Lee says he practiced every day for two weeks to make an audition video, which he posted to his YouTube channel, RisingPianoFire. It's a straightforward video, with no fade ins or fancy editing. There's just Lee, in a black turtle-neck, in a white room, with his violin. He presses "record" on the camera, takes a deep breath, and makes music. Thirty-second notes bounce off the walls and climb up your spine. His audition has now been viewed 13,000 times, and he has also posted scores of other videos demonstrating his prodigious talent at the piano.

YouTube received more than 3,000 audition videos, from amateurs and professionals. Entrants played two songs, the first from a handful of exceedingly difficult classical pieces (Lee played the Presto from Bach's *Violin Sonata in G minor*), and the second was *Internet Symphony No. 1, Eroica*, written by Chinese composer Tan Dun and specially arranged for this occasion. The entries were whittled down first by members of the London Symphony Orchestra, then by YouTube voters, and finally by Thomas, the music director of the San Francisco Symphony and the YouTube Symphony's artistic director.

In February, when the concert organizers phoned Lee's office to tell him he had been selected, the receptionists dis-

missed the call as a joke. "They basically said, 'Doctor's not in. If he's interested, he'll call you back,'" Lee recalls. "Later they said, 'Oh, we got this prank phone call from Google [which owns YouTube]; we just hung up on them.' I said, 'You hung up on them?!'"

In the weeks leading up to the YouTube performance, Thomas rehearsed the orchestra online. He posted videos in which he explained what he wanted from each instrument part and San Francisco Symphony musicians demonstrated what he meant. "Because he actually conducted virtually, I felt like I had played for him before," Lee said. In mid-April, the entire orchestra gathered in New York City for a whirlwind three days of rehearsals and master classes, culminating in the Carnegie Hall concert. "For us it's been somewhere between a kind of classical music summit conference and a [Boy] Scout jamboree," Thomas said. "With an element of speed dating thrown in."

Unlike most of his colleagues on the stage at Carnegie



Hall, Lee is not a professional musician. He studied both piano and violin as a child, and performed in the Brown University Orchestra while concentrating in neural studies. He served as concertmaster during his senior year, and twice won the orchestra's concerto competition.

Then came medical school, also at Brown. "In med school, I basically practiced about zero to one hour a month," he says. "In residency, it became zero to one hour per year." Still, he says, playing music "completes me as a person. Plus, if it becomes a technical challenge, that complements my surgical dexterity. It's another way to keep my fingers more nimble."

Growing Up, American-Style

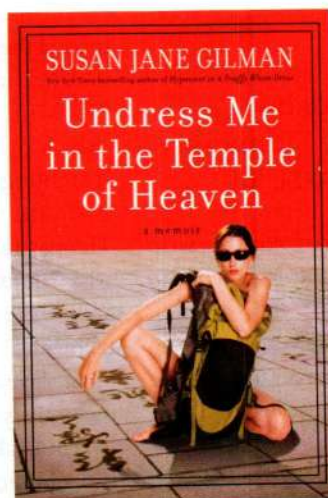
Inspired by an IHOP menu, two recent graduates take off for China. BY CHARLOTTE BRUCE HARVEY '78

[BOOK] *Undress Me in the Temple of Heaven* by Susan Jane Gilman '86 (Grand Central).

LATE ONE NIGHT IN THE SPRING OF 1986, SUSAN Jane Gilman and a Brown classmate sat at the International House of Pancakes on Thayer Street, staring at the "Pancakes of Many Nations!" placemats. The women had had way too much to drink and were feeling the invincibility of college seniors about to be set free. Inspired by IHOP's menu, they hit on a plan: they would circle the globe together, eating the pancakes of many nations in those many nations. Well into the wee hours of the morning, the two seniors giggled and listed the places they wanted to visit: Thailand, Bali, Marrakech, Greece, Paris.... The possibilities seemed limitless.

Gilman went home to New York City, waited tables all summer to rustle up some money, and got an extension on her student loan payments. In the fall she and her friend flew to Hong Kong, their backpacks stuffed with Lonely Planet travel guides and two cameras, which promptly broke.

Planning to spend a year traveling, the women decided to start in China and work their way south through Bali and



nuts and bolts, and to leave us to reassemble our view of the world and our place in it.

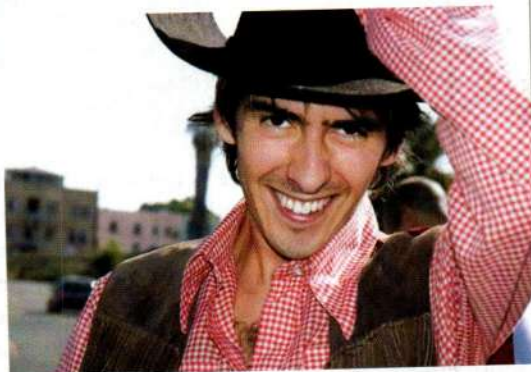
As she did in two earlier, hilarious memoirs, *Kiss My Tiara* and *Hypocrite in a Puffy White Dress*, Gilman describes her working-class urban roots, this time contrasting them to the origins of her wealthy friend, whom she calls "Claire Van Houten" to underscore their class differences. Still, both women begin their journey as ugly Americans—brats, really. "Wow. Plumbing—as brought to you by Charles Dickens," Gilman quips when confronted with a hostel's shower, a concrete cube with a bent pipe jutting out of the wall. Van Houten doesn't see the humor; she's panicked at the lack of a shower curtain. "Don't look," she begs as she undresses. "Please. My thighs are a nightmare."

In 1986, Western tourists were rare in China, and the women drew crowds of curious locals fascinated by their big noses and pale skin. Under constant scrutiny, Van Houten falls apart. Whether from the emotional strain or the malaria pills she is taking, she becomes paranoid and hallucinates that the CIA, the FBI, and the Mossad are after her. In southern China she bolts. With good reason Gilman fears that if the Chinese officials discover Van Houten to be mentally ill, they will lock her up.

Gilman's story could have been just another self-indulgent saga of overeducated and under-experienced Americans discovering that the world is more complex than they knew, but Van Houten's breakdown changes everything. Forced to take charge of the situation, Gilman grows up fast, cashing in her clever banter and girlish giggles for the richer currency of responsibility. It's a good trade.

CHARLOTTE BRUCE HARVEY is the BAM's managing editor.

[ON STAGE] If you're heading to Chicago this summer, you can catch a couple of alumni bands among the headliners at the Lollapalooza festival August 7-9. London-based **Dhani Harrison** '01 (below) will sing and play guitar and keyboards with thenewno2 (a reference to "the new Number Two," in the classic British TV show *The Prisoner*). Harrison comes by his talent naturally; he's the son of Beatle George Harrison. *Rolling Stone* described thenewno2's debut CD, *You Are Here* as "a subtle mix of gentle vocals and electronics, with layered beats, throbbing bass, and occasional wailing guitar." Sharing the Grant Park stage will be The Low Anthem's **Ben Knox Miller** '06, **Jocie Adams** '08, and **Jeff Prystowsky** '06, who met at Brown. Nonesuch Records signed the Providence trio this spring and re-released their third album, *Oh My God, Charlie Darwin*. For the festival schedule and clips of the bands, go to Lollapalooza.com.



Oy, Madagaskar

Rebecca Joy Fletcher '90 revives forgotten Yiddish songs.

BY LAWRENCE GOODMAN

[SONG] SHORTLY BEFORE THE NAZIS INVADED Poland, they came up with the idea of deporting all the country's Jews to Madagascar. In Warsaw's Yiddish cabaret clubs, Jewish entertainers mocked the idea in a song called "Oy, Madagaskar," which had such memorable lines as "It's like a *shvitz* [sauna], but out-of-doors." A few years later, of course, no one was laughing; the Nazis had scrapped the Madagascar plan in favor of the Final Solution.

Thanks to cabaret singer Rebecca Joy Fletcher, "Oy, Madagaskar" is back. A professional cantor and chanteuse, Fletcher uses such long-forgotten Jewish songs as the basis for her cabaret shows. To write her 2007 show, *Kleynkunst!*, she researched Yiddish cabaret in the 1920s and 1930s, at a time when it thrived in Warsaw's "*kleynkunst*" or "little art" theaters. In *Cities of Light*, Fletcher turns her focus in part to Tel Aviv's cabaret culture in the decades leading up to the 1948 founding of the state of Israel. A heady brew of German expressionist music and Russian performance style, *Cities* covers topics ranging from Zionism to Communism to bawdy jokes.

Fletcher says she is fascinated by cabaret's juxtaposition of "light and dark emotions": "The range of human emotions is put together almost chaotically and displayed in all of its contradictions." Fletcher, who concentrated in English at Brown, says she became passionate about old Yiddish songs during her final year at cantorial school at Hebrew Union College in New York City. There she also discovered she loved the style of cabaret that blossomed in Weimar Germany between the wars, with its modernist music and embrace of decadence. *Kleynkunst!* combines both influences, featuring a Yiddish version of Kurt Weill's "Mack the Knife" and the all-too-prescient song "The Last Jew in Poland," about what happens to the country when all the Jews are gone. *Kleynkunst!* premiered at New York City's 92nd Street Y in 2007 and at the National Yiddish Theatre-Folksbiene, with Fletcher and performer Stephen Mo Hanan costarring. *New York Times* critic Lawrence Van Gelder praised Fletcher's "richly rounded and eventually heartbreaking performance."

Fletcher chose the song "Oy, Madagaskar" because "it's that line between you're laughing and you're getting really creeped out." The song actually references a number of racial stereotypes. "It's pretty politically incorrect," she says. "It's talking about being with the 'savages' of Madagascar

because they're less savage than the gentiles in Poland."

Last summer, Fletcher traveled to Israel, where she lived as a teenager, to research the history of cabaret in Tel Aviv. The Jews who immigrated there brought with them the European cabaret tradition, and shows sprouted in the city's restaurants, cafés, and function halls. Fletcher says a typical act could feature vaudeville skits, send-ups of the British officials who then ruled Palestine, and soaring pro-Zionist ballads. Political messages were often contradictory, with pro- and anti-Communist songs performed in the same show. Strangely, there's little mention of the Arabs then living in Israel. Fletcher believes this may be because the Jews were worried British censors wouldn't allow controversial material on stage. She says it may also be the result of the Jews primarily wanting to celebrate their achievement in building up a new city in the middle of a desert, rather than to dwell on the Arabs.

"They were so profoundly proud of this modernist enterprise called Tel Aviv," she says. "Jews were not only farmers and swamp drainers, but café owners and government officials—that's chic!"

LAWRENCE GOODMAN is the BAM's senior writer. Videos of Fletcher performing are at www.rebeccajoyfletcher.com.



Cantor-turned-chanteuse
Rebecca Fletcher in her new cabaret
show, *Cities of Light*.

ALUMNI FICTION

- » The Cutting by **James Hayman** '63 (*Minotaur*).
- » The Selected Works of T. S. Spivet by **Reif Larsen** '02 (*Penguin*).
- » Follow Me by **Joanna Scott** '85 AM (*Little, Brown*).
- » Escape Under the Forever Sky by **Eve Yohalem** '89 (*Chronicle*).

ALUMNI NONFICTION

- » Unfriendly Fire: How the Gay Ban Undermines the Military and Weakens America by **Nathaniel Frank** '95 AM, '02 PhD (*Thomas Dunne*).
- » God Knows There's Need: Christian Responses to Poverty by **Susan R. Holman** '98 PhD (*Oxford*).
- » The Art of Scandal: Modernism, Libel Law, and the Roman à Clef by **Sean Latham** '96 AM, '00 PhD (*Oxford*).
- » A Movement Without Marches: African American Women and the Politics of Poverty in Postwar Philadelphia by **Lisa Levenstein** '94 (*North Carolina*).
- » A Brain Wider Than The Sky: A Migraine Diary by **Andrew Levy** '84 (*Simon & Schuster*).



- » Acceptance: A Legendary Guidance Counselor Helps Seven Kids Find the Right Colleges—and Find Themselves by **David L. Marcus** '82 (*Penguin*).
- » The Bonfire: The Siege and Burning of Atlanta by **Marc Wortman** '78 (*PublicAffairs*).

ALUMNI POETRY

- » Dear Apocalypse by **Katie A. Hays** '05 MFA (*Carnegie Mellon*).
- » Frankie, Alfredo, by **Liane Strauss** '89 AM, '93 PhD (*Donut Press*).

FACULTY NONFICTION

- » Family Matters: The Importance of Mattering to Family in Adolescence by **Gregory C. Elliott** (*Wiley-Blackwell*).

FACULTY POETRY

- » Use Trouble by **Michael S. Harper** (*Illinois*).
- » Transcendental Studies by **Keith Waldrop** (*California*).
- » Rising, Falling, Hovering by **C. D. Wright** (*Copper Canyon*).

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CONTINUED FROM page 35 games to some of the lowest. With \$6,000 left to his name, he climbed back up, seeking out the toughest player at each level. He would play that person head-on for marathon sessions until his opponent lost enough money to quit. From January to May, fewer than six months, sitting on the top floor of a rented house on Williams Street, Seiver rose to the highest levels of online poker, higher than he'd ever been.

Then, a month later, he transferred his momentum from computer to casino. Nearly two weeks into the 2008 WSOP, Seiver and Okun found themselves sitting across from each other at a table as they competed in one of the events. They knew that only two tables—eighteen players—were left. With midnight approaching in the Rio casino, the friends realized that they could soon be at the final table together. "I thought for sure we're going to be playing heads up," Okun recalls. "I thought, 'Why not?' That's how I had seen it in my dreams."

It didn't quite happen that way. Okun finished seventeenth. After getting knocked out, he walked over to Seiver and told him, "You better win this now that I'm out of the way."

When the final nine players reconvened the next day, Seiver sat with about half of all the chips in play. He says he wasn't nervous—not with the cameras rolling and not even when only one other player sat between him and a WSOP win. He stayed calm even when, as is the custom with televised matches, bricks of one-hundred-dollar bills were dumped onto the table to form a mountain of cash. At age twenty-three, he knocked out the other player and won his diamond bracelet. He had achieved what most professional card players spend a lifetime chasing. "It didn't hit me for a while," he says. "I was definitely somewhat dazed." He wore the bracelet to the casino the next day.

Back home on Long Island for Thanksgiving last year, Seiver took on a high-stakes Finnish opponent known for his hyperaggressive play. Seiver and Haxton spend most of their time playing such pricey heads-up No-Limit Hold-'Em games. At the time, they were pooling their money with other successful young players so each could take advantage of the highest-stakes games—the nosebleed games—without risking all of their own bankrolls.

Seiver's game against the player from Finland was one of the few that turned out well. It lasted two-and-a-half hours. Seiver played on a computer in the room where he'd grown up. By the time the game ended, Seiver had won \$800,000. "At this point," Haxton says, "there are not that many people that will play me or Scott."

These days, Seiver and Haxton live in a Las Vegas high-rise luxury apartment building called Panorama Towers. Haxton lives two floors below Seiver, and Sam Edwards, who's become successful as an online player, is also in the building. About twenty young, wealthy poker players live in Panorama Towers. Okun lives in a condominium nearby.

The poker life—most of it is spent indoors, staring at a

computer screen—is not for everyone. There is no shortage of stories about misfits addicted to online play flunking out of school, losing all their money. Poker *looks* easy, but the best players will tell you that looks are deceiving. Over the long term the skill of the best players will save them, but many players go broke before they get there. In the short term, no matter how skilled a player may be, the luck of the cards can never be eliminated. Bad streaks happen. Seiver and Haxton, for example, have won millions, but they have lost millions as well. They recently played in the biggest cash game ever assembled online: the cost of entering was several hundred thousand dollars. Haxton's luck turned bad, and he lost almost \$2 million dollars. Weeks later at the 2009 WSOP, he won nearly \$1.3 million.

One of the questions the Blue Room veterans ask themselves is: Why Brown? Even they are astonished at how a small collection of players could so quickly produce such outsized success.

In part, the time was right. When poker reached its burst of televised popularity in 2003, many young and successful players who stormed the scene were from Ivies. Most of these players had the money to play with and the ambition and brains to master the game quickly. Thanks to the Internet, the playing experience earlier generations of players took years to collect in casinos and smoky back rooms now takes only weeks online. The Blue Room Game became the meeting place—the classroom, really—where the lessons of all that experience could be shared and analyzed. "A group to learn with is so huge in poker," Haxton says. "The coincidence of people with natural ability like me, Scott, and Jared learning together—that is why you see a cluster of good players coming up."

To this day, poker remains fun for these players, even though it's a business for them now. The popularity of No-Limit Texas Hold-'Em has slowed in recent years. Tournament enrollment is down, and the thrill of online poker has faded for many players. Although Okun, Seiver, and Haxton don't know how long they'll be playing poker professionally, they have no intention of giving up the competition anytime soon.

After failing to make it to the final table at the Foxwoods tournament this April, Okun waxed nostalgic about his early playing days at Brown. He said he misses the Blue Room Game, with its innocence and lighthearted tone. He misses playing in an environment where everyone supports and pushes one another. He has told Seiver he wants to revive that atmosphere in a regular game in Las Vegas, enlisting other young, successful players. If it works out, he says, it'll be a testament to the Blue Room Game's astounding and enduring impact.

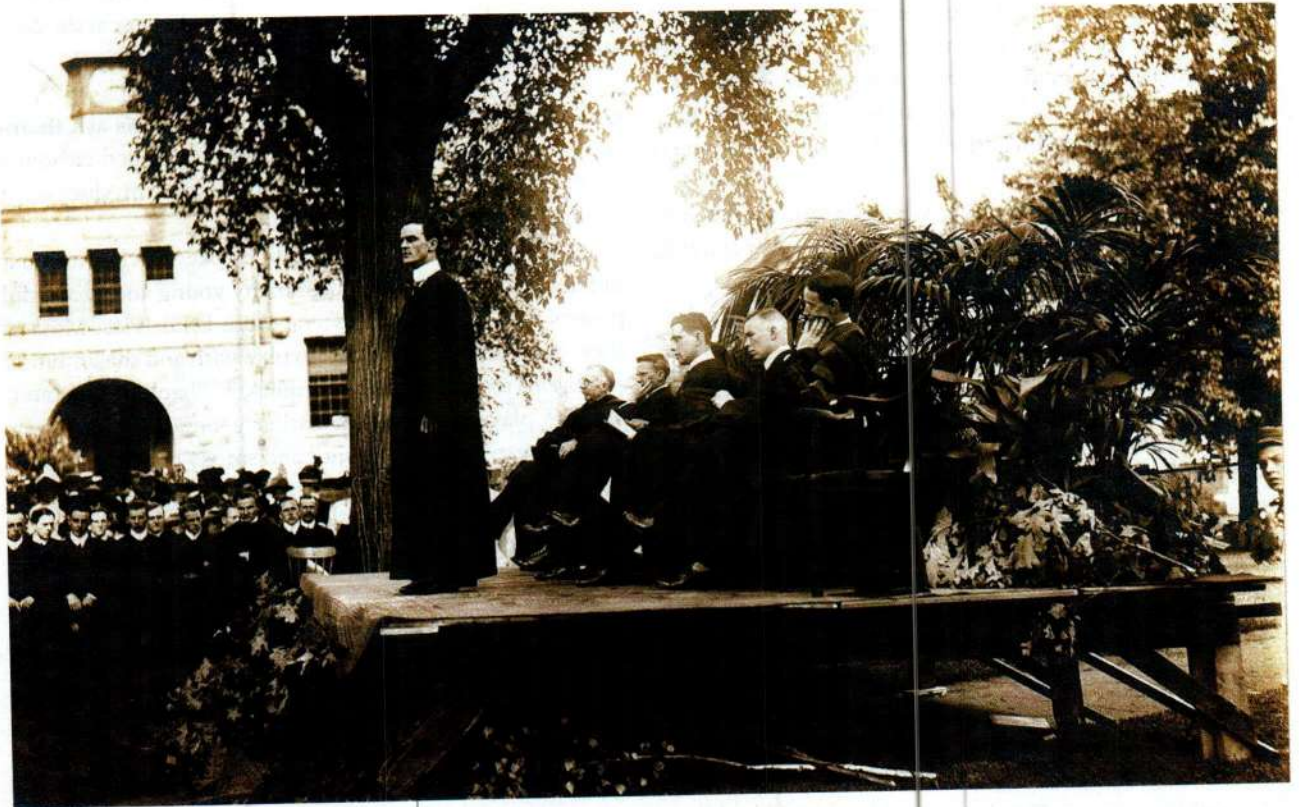
"I totally miss it," Okun says wistfully. "I would love to have the Blue Room Game again."

RYAN GOLDBERG is a freelance writer in New York City.

The Classes

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Speech Lesson

In 1812, as now, a senior addressed his classmates. Here, William H. Robertson speaks at the Under the Elms exercises, and President Faunce listens from the far end of the platform. According to notes with the photograph, Robertson was a brilliant English scholar. Can you tell us more?

1939

Elisabeth Crowley Allen and John T. Barrett (see Abigail Barrett '03).

1943

Priscilla Woodbury Watson writes that

class members living at Duncaster Continuing Care Retirement Community in Bloomfield, Conn., include **Stanley Taylor** '42 and his wife, Shirley; **Will Robin** and his wife, Elaine; **Alexander Watson** and Priscilla Woodbury Watson; **Mary McNulty Stoughton** '48 and her husband, George; and **Grace Hahn Holcomb** '44. Contact them at 80 Loeffler Rd., Bloomfield, 06002; ampwwatson@comcast.net.

1947

Domenic Canna is vice chairman of the Bristol Housing Authority and serves on several committees promoting affordable housing. He was recently honored as one of the longest-serving commissioners in R.I.

1948

Jack Frankel writes that he recently returned from his fifth trip to Tibet, where he collected a wide variety of herbs used in traditional medicine. He also gave two lectures.

William Peterson '48 AM reports that he is cataloguing the Rockefeller Library's theater programs. Contact William at 355 Blackstone Blvd. #433, Providence, 02906; hisfolks@verizon.net.

Mary McNulty Stoughton (see **Priscilla Woodbury Watson** '43).

1950

Gordon E. Allen writes that at a Brown Club of Cape Cod meeting he ran into **Lester**

Allen, whom he had not seen since college. Gordon has been living on the Cape for 22 years and has a home in Vero Beach, Fla., where he spends the winter. He is in good health and looks forward to celebrating 58 years of marriage.

Philip and Dorothy Smith Curtis write that Philip is an emeritus mathematics professor at UCLA and is still involved in efforts to increase the number of math majors going into high school teaching. Dorothy is a retired Los Angeles Unified School District teacher in early childhood education with an emphasis on parent education.

M. Dean Jacoby celebrated his 80th birthday in Dallas with the help of **Arnie Raphealson**.

Russ Kinne is a freelance photographer and moves boats (boatrelocate.com) in New Canaan, Conn. He still flies airplanes and plans to buy a new one and move soon.

Ruth Weiss Soforenko writes: "I'm still active in my interior design business and loving it." She remains in touch with several classmates, including **Marcia Krawit Brown**, **Rita Caslowitz Michaelson**, and **Phyllis Rosen Cardozo**.

Edward Torgen has semi-retired; he sold his office last July and moved his practice home. He and his wife welcomed their sixth grandchild to the family last October.

Robert Vivian and **Peter Lyon** sing in the choir at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Bridgton, Me. Bob grew up in Pawtucket, and Pete grew up in Providence, where he sang in the choir at St. Stephen's Church for four years as a boy soprano.

Bill Walsh and **Myra Oliver** went on a 32-day trip through Thailand and Vietnam last Dec.

1951

F. Monroe Allen was recently appointed probate judge for the town of Smithfield, R.I., and continues to practice law full-time. He also swims, runs, plays tennis, and volunteers as a swim instructor twice a week at the YMCA.

Frances Wexler O'Connell has published a novel, *The Apostate's Daughter*, which is largely set at Brown. She coedited her 50th reunion yearbook and used to edit the *New Jersey Pembroke*.

Phyllis Van Horn Tillinghast spends winters in Florida and summers in Connecticut. Contact her at 6104 Palma Del Mar Blvd. South, #109, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33715; 3478 Meadow Ridge., Redding, Conn. 06896.

1953

Hal Fleming has published *The Brides' Fair*, a tale of international intrigue and terrorism set in Morocco, where he lived for five years. Hal spent 10 years in West and North Africa, and has worked for the Peace Corps, the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, and UNICEF.

1954

Alvin Gerstein and his wife, **Naomi**, announce the engagement of their daughter, **Hilary '03**, to **Martin Lichtman '01**. The wedding is planned for Oct. 31. Contact Alvin at Gerstein@verizon.net.

Ethel Barrett Graham and her husband, **Malcolm**, are enjoying retirement in Wilmington, N.C. They are grandparents of six and great-grandparents of one little girl. Contact Ethel at 125 Coots Trail, Hampstead, N.C. 28443.

Bill Hall writes that he enjoys retired life in New York City, attending museums, lectures, and theater; bargain shopping; and meeting Brown classmates for dinner. He is trying his hand at writing the "Great American Novel!" Bill resides in Shaker Heights, Ohio, from June 15 to Sept. 15. Call him there at (216) 991-4736, or in New York at (212) 777-6284.

Louis Pastore retired in 1998 and enjoys playing golf, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.



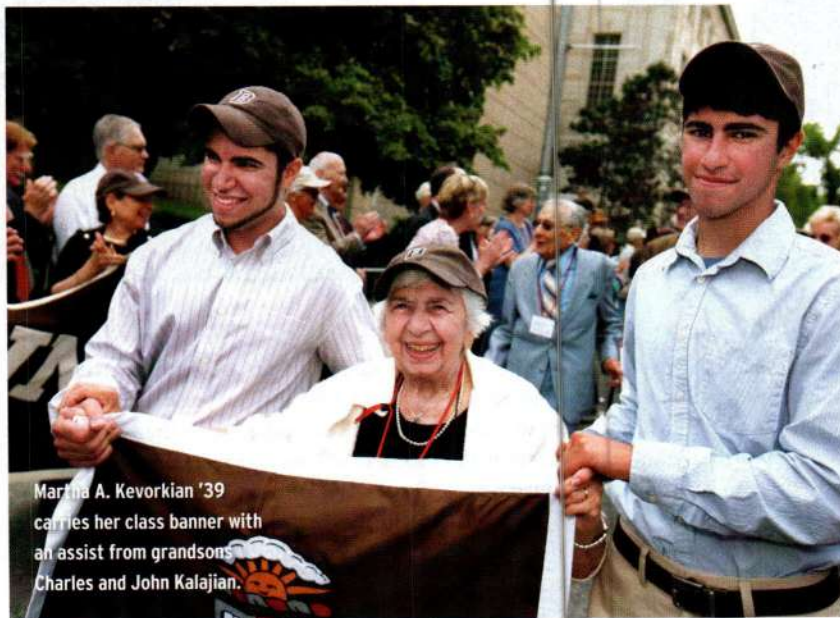
Davis Caldwell '34 prepares to march at his 75th reunion.

Bill Peace is home after spending several winter weeks on St. Simons Island, Ga. Bill writes: "Thankfully we are in good health, and our best to all." Contact Bill at fpeace12@local.net.com.

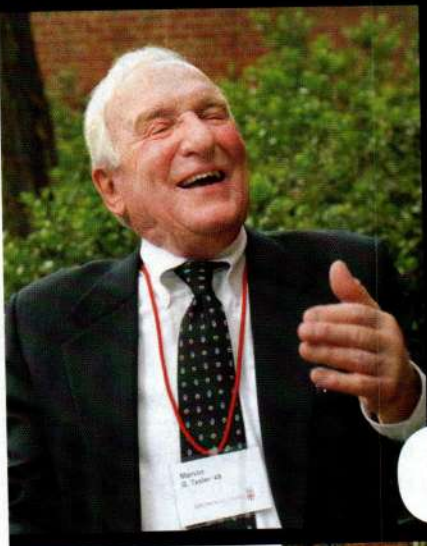
Norm Sprinthall '59 AM reports that he stays trim by sailing, golfing, swimming, and beach walking when he's not dancing, traveling, or playing with his grandchildren.

1955

Robert O'Such writes that his eldest grandson, **Bruce Audino**, is engaged to **Carolyn Chang '02**. Bruce works for JP Morgan in New York City and Carolyn is attending NYU's Stern School of Business. Robert and his wife, Sally, have been married 54 years and have



Marina A. Kevorkian '39 carries her class banner with an assist from grandsons Charles and John Kalajian.



Clockwise from top left: Marilyn Silverman Ehrenhaus '49 and Abraham Ehrenhaus '45 join the throngs on the College Green, while Charlie Collins '44 and his classmates hail the new grads on College Hill. Walter Lada '49 and Harold Demopoulos '46 pose before a portrait of the 1926 Iron Men football team. Back for their 65th Pembroke reunion, Dorothy Goldblatt, Lillian C. Affleck, Doris Hirsch, and Iz Alexander catch up on Wriston Quad, where Marvin Tessler '49 laughs at a story.

Old School



six grandsons and one granddaughter. They recently became great-grandparents. Robert and his friend **James McGall** received a Beta newsletter from **Ernest Fontan**. Ernest would love to hear from other Betas from the early 1950s and can be reached at efontan@cfl.rr.com.

Willis Riccio joined the law firm of Looney and Grossman in Boston last January as senior counsel specializing in securities law.

During the past year he had two articles published: *The Ubiquitous Investment Contract* and *Insider Trading—An Update*. He continues to teach securities law at the New England School of Law. Last September Willis and his wife, Donna, completed their 52nd voyage with the Cunard Line; they have sailed on both the *Queen Elizabeth 2* and the *Queen Mary 2*. Last February he attended an SEC reunion in Washington, D.C., with **Roger Deitz** '65.

1956

Joel Davis writes that his grandson Jared B. Davis has been accepted into Brown's class of 2013. He is the third generation in the family.

Nancy Blacher Shuster divides her time between Naples, Fla., and Narragansett, R.I. She is teaching for a learning-in-retirement program at Florida Gulf Coast

Univ. This season she taught six courses, including Writing Your Life Story. Contact Nancy at nshu4@aol.com.

1957

Phil and Patricia Checchia Abbatomarco have purchased a condo in West Yarmouth, Mass., and hope to spend more time there during the summer. Phil continues as part-time adjunct professor at Rhode Island College and as guitarist in the Strictly Sentimental Swing big band and Seniors for Jazz, a small group. Patricia is busy with Patrician Properties and the downtown Business Assoc. of East Providence. They are taking a course together in conversational Italian. Their grandson Benjamin, 10, is an emerging actor; he has had nonspeaking roles in *Cashmere Mafia* and *Burn after Reading*, and will appear in future episodes of *Gossip Girl*, *Law and Order*, and *Criminal Intent*. Benjamin is the son of Lisa and **Robert Abbatomarco '82**.

San Francisco State Univ. has raised \$1.9 million for the **Robert Corrigan** and Joyce Corrigan SF Promise Endowed Scholarship Fund, which honors the couple's 20 years of leadership. The program aims to put a college education within reach for all San Francisco students and will guarantee admission and financial support for any who meet admission requirements. In addition, Bob received three honorary doctorates from the Chung Yuan Christian Univ. in Taiwan, J.F. Oberlin Univ. in Tokyo, and the Univ. of San Francisco. Bob also received the Distinguished Community Service Award from the Anti-Defamation League of San Francisco, the Unsung Hero Award from the Jewish Community Relations Council of San Francisco, and the first Mensch Award from the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame of Northern California. And, finally, he was inducted into the UMass. at Boston Athletics Hall of Fame.

Rosemary Carroll, correspondent for the Brown Club of the Treasure Coast of Florida reports another successful season. The club hosted a cocktail party and a talk by President Simmons, who was accompanied by members of the Alumni Relations department and a Brown senior who gave a piano solo. In April the club hosted a dinner with Mike Stanton, author of *The Prince of Providence*, about former mayor Buddy Cianci. Rosemary will be in Newport from May until late October. She serves on three boards: Brown, the American Association of Univ. Women, and Hanson's

Landing, the condominium complex where she lives during the winter.

Sandra Sundquist Durfee and **Dave Durfee '56** hosted a mini Beta Theta Pi reunion in March on Hilton Head Island. In attendance were **Jim Rogers '56** and **Jim Page '56**. Sandy writes: "We also visited **Ric Brown '58** and his wife, Lynn, in Beaufort. Lynn's art show at the local gallery was most impressive, and her imaginative paintings sell rapidly. I want to thank all of you again for your submissions to the class notes. Corresponding with you is such a treat and certainly beats the vapid meanderings of those messages on Facebook and Twitter!"

Mike Geremia spent May in Florida,

keeping up with the status of many classmates and sends his best wishes to all.

James McCurrach's school year came to an end, and he and his partner spent the summer on a river trip in China that included a high-speed train through the mountains from Beijing to Tibet. They also visited a distant relative of Jim's in London and spent a few days in New York City. He is thinking of spending just one more year teaching.

Barry Merkin teaches entrepreneurship at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management, and his wife, Jasminka, is a retired surgeon. They have five grandchildren—two in Chicago, one in Los Angeles,



Tom Simon jokes with seniors as he and Diana Gill carry their class banner. Bob Wigod '54 is at right.

was in Rhode Island this summer to attend an aunt's 100th birthday party, and then returned to the cool mountains of western North Carolina.

Mark Kessler writes: "Things are going well, even in these trying times, especially when one considers the alternatives and stops to contemplate his or her blessings." Mark's wife, Susan, is close to becoming a licensed landscape architect, his children are doing well and are still interested in their parents, and his career is still intact. His stint as general counsel for Toll Brothers Inc. has been extended. He hopes he will be around to see the homebuilding market climb back up the ladder and that he will be able to be part of the re-growth of a major industry. While he waits, fly-fishing is supplanting his golf hobby. In January, the Kesslers spent time with the families of **Steve Cutler**, **Steve Rogers '56**, and **Robert Gordon '56** in Florida. Mark gives thanks to the **BAM** and **John Lyden** for

and two in New Haven, Conn.—children of their daughter, **Beth '81**. They spend summers at their home on the Adriatic Sea in Croatia and winters at their condo in Snowbird, Altoona. Barry also remains very involved as vice-chairman of the Institute of Laryngology and Voice Restoration at the Harvard Medical School and the World Presidents Organization. He remains in touch with **Gus White**, **Jim Harmon**, and **Steve Cutler**.

Peggy and **George Newton** spent time this past winter with Barbara and **Howard Miller** in Bonita Springs, Fla. George and Howard had a mini-reunion foursome on the golf course with **Jack Marshall** and **John Keith**. George writes: "The conversation and enjoyment far exceeded the quality of the golf."

Bill Rivelli's son, Taylor, is part of the group Dujecous, which debuted a video for the hip-hop single "Break Bread" (<http://vimeo.com/3547318>). They have played the

Apollo and continue to get bookings for major music venues in New York City. Bill had another major group photography exhibition at the Red Eft Gallery in Wurtsboro, N.Y., in May, and will participate in two more theme shows during the summer. He is being considered for a solo exhibition in a Toronto museum and for an extended fine art assignment for the United Nations. Bill's daughter, Sarah, is an attending physician and head of the med/psych intern

program at Duke Medical Center. Her husband, Xavier, is an attending physician and researcher in sleep studies at Duke.

Judy Sims Roberts is living in Englewood, Fla. Her husband, Rick, died in October 2007. Judy works four days a week as an assistant pastor at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Punta Gorda. She says that a new grandchild living in St. Louis lights up her life. She and Rick did some traveling in earlier years, and she was fortunate to

spend two weeks in Greece with friends last summer. Florida is now her permanent residence, but she does manage to get back to New England each summer to visit family and friends.

Judy and **George Rollinson** are spending the summer in Narragansett, R.I. They are enjoying visits from and to their four sons and their families in the northeast. Over the past winter, in addition to involvement with the Brown Club of the Treasure Coast, they enjoyed activities with the Navy League and Atlantic Classical Orchestra.

Bob Saltonstall's first granddaughter, Caroline, graduated from high school this May and will be a freshman at Brown where she earned early admission. Caroline's mother works at Brown in construction project management. Bob is still living in Rancho Mirage, Calif.

In April **Augustus White III** codirected a three-day continuing education course on healthcare disparities entitled "Getting to Equal: Strategies to Improve Care for All Patients" under the Harvard Medical School department of continuing education.

1958

Class secretary **Jill Hirst Scobie** writes: "Please send your news to c.cynthiascobie@comcast.net or 160 Worcester Ln., Waltham, Mass. 02451. Join your classmates for a wonderful mid-autumn weekend. The class of '58 mini-reunion will be held on Columbus Day weekend, October 9-12, in Washington, D.C. We are booked into the Westin Grand—(800) 228-3000 or (888) 627-8406; Alaska & Hawaii: (800) 228-1212—at 24th and M Streets NW. \$189/night for three nights if you reserve by Sept. 9 and mention our group name: Brown Class of '58. Friday evening will begin with a welcoming reception and dinner. On Saturday morning, there will be an optional bus tour with a knowledgeable docent. A private tour of the White House has been arranged by a Brown graduate who is a special assistant to the President, though the timing of this event is yet to be determined. From 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. an expert will discuss Current Washington followed by cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Dinnertime will be your chance to go out on the town with old friends and classmates. Sunday afternoon we'll hear the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic conducted by our own **Jim James**. The rest of the time you'll be on your own to see the attractions of our nation's capital and reminisce with

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classmates. There will be a \$200/per person fee to cover the cost of the food and drinks at the two evening events and the bus charters. We hope you make your reservations early, which will make subsequent planning much easier. Many thanks for the hard work of vice president **Jim Moody** '65 ScM in getting this so well organized. A letter with more details will follow soon."

Art Ames and his wife, Karen, are spending part of the year in Storm Lake, Iowa, where he practiced medicine for 30 years before retiring. They also visit their beachfront condo in Madeira Beach, Fla., and spend time with family in Phoenix and grandchildren in St. Louis.

Adrienne Arabian Baksa moved with her husband, Richard, to Costa Rica, leaving Tarpon Springs behind. Her daughter, Rachael, just presented her with a new grandson, Gabriel Simidian Nicoli. Adrienne and Richard continue their joint work of helping incarcerated people learn about Buddhism. She can be reached at 216 Roca Verde, Alajuela, Atenas 20501, Costa Rica.

Judith Katz Block wrote a book of poetry about losing one of her sons, *David: A Love Song*. Her eldest grandson, Sam Block, will be entering Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism this fall.

Dorothy Cotton-Pemstein lives in Boston's Back Bay. As a clinical psychologist she leads a support group for widows and widowers, a work she embarked upon in memory of her husband, **Richard Pemstein** '51; she finds that joining the professional and the personal makes a powerful combination for leading the group. Two daughters, two granddaughters, and discussion groups at the French Library also engage her.

Lois Dean just returned to Chevy Chase, Md., after a month at her place in Bradenton Beach, Fla., painting and doing portrait photography, computer graphics, and other creative projects in the company of artist friends.

Stan Dobson writes that last October he spent three weeks in the Galapagos Islands and Machu Picchu. He found it a "wonderful trip that was physically demanding but definitely worthwhile and incredibly amazing." He continues: "We've snorkeled many times in many places but never side by side with penguins, seals, and huge turtles."

Lee Ann Etscovitz writes to tell about her journey. When Lee Ann attended Brown her name was **Lionel Etscovitz**. In 2001, at 65, she had sexual reassignment surgery. Lee Ann has a doctorate, was a professor of

education, sold cars, and after completing an internship in Marriage and Family Therapy is working hard at developing her own therapy practice as well as being a specialist in transgender issues. Contact Lee Ann at LPE@comcast.net; innerjourney.biz.

Lois Hammersberg Lowry has written a new book, *Gooney Bird Is So Absurd*, the fourth in her popular Gooney Bird series. Lois has won many awards, including Brown's 2006 William Rogers Award.

Michael Trotter has written a 24-essay series on national issues for a local newspaper, which the Georgia Online News Service is republishing and offering to other media outlets.

George Vandervoort writes: "In November I went to Saudi Arabia in an unsuccessful attempt to sell an electric power plant. However, I did send a shipment of Saudi dates, on consignment, to **Peter Kopke's** fruit importing business."

Judy, invited us to a gathering at their house. Those in attendance were **Peter Kopke**, **Don** and **Patricia Pennal MacKenzie** '59, **George Vandervoort**, **Roger Williams**, and myself. This year the group was expanded to include **Bruce Fowler**, visiting from N.C., and **Bob Sanchez**, who drove up from Naples, Fla. Judy and **Tom Moses** did a wonderful job of hosting."

1959

Eve Naramore Skeritt (see **Joan Winter Skeritt** '34).

1960

Anne Jones Mills retired as CFO and vice president for business management at Ottawa Univ. in Kansas. She took on this new role after retiring from IBM in 1991. Anne continues as a trustee for several



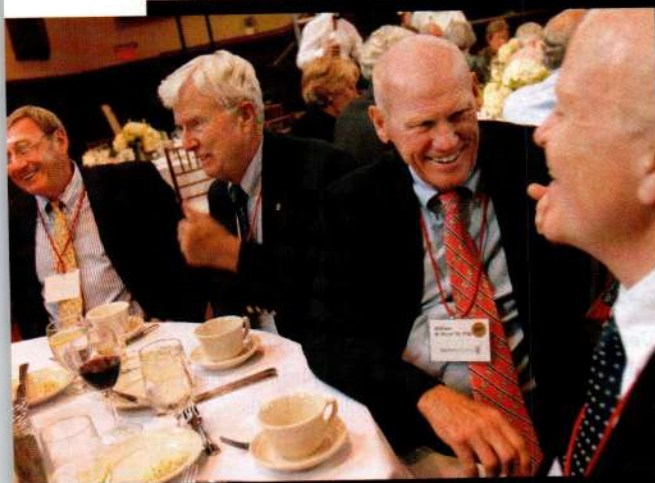
Abbe Beth Robinson Young and **Jerold Young** '54 write that they have a formidable Brown contingent in their family: daughter **Elisabeth Young Harris** '82 is married to **David Harris** '80; their son **Jason Harris** is a junior, and **Alex Harris** will enter in September. Other Brown alums in the family include daughter **Marjorie Bearse Young Chimes** '84 and son **Andrew Young** '86. Last winter Abbe and Jerold travelled through the Panama Canal and, in March, celebrated their 50th by spending a week on the Mayan Peninsula.

Frank Young writes: "For the third year in a row six of us who spent freshman year in Edwards House got together in Sarasota, Fla., in March. **Tom Moses** and his wife,

Aquila mutual funds. She and her husband enjoy living in the West, splitting their time between homes in Colo. and Ariz.

1961

Bruce Bates and his wife, Ellen, spent May cruising the Baltic as guests of an Italian sailing club. They write that they had a great time visiting Copenhagen, Denmark; Kiel, Germany; Visby and Stockholm, Sweden; Tallinn, Estonia; Helsinki, Finland; and St. Petersburg, Russia. Last summer their son, **Bruce** '99, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter, Zoe, joined them on their boat on Narragansett Bay and Block Island Sound. Contact Bruce at 10 Cedar Point Rd., PO



From soup to nuts, the 50th reunion had style. Clockwise from top left: As Grand Marshal, Elizabeth Z. Chace gleefully leads the Commencement March. At Friday's class dinner in Sayles Hall, Eve Naramore Skerritt laughs with her husband, Bob, and Jack MacDonald entertains friends. President Simmons joins the conversation, and Eileen Cohen and Amy Singer catch up, while (left to right) Dick Canepa, Christopher Peet, William Scott, and Mike Bergan relax over coffee before heading to the dance floor. Sayles's organ and vaulted ceiling make a dramatic backdrop.

1959



Box 656, Durham, N.H. 03824; bruce.bates@comcast.net.

Alice Guillemette Bransfield writes that the committee organizing the 50th reunion book discussion, "Brown '61 Reads," requests classmates to submit title suggestions that would interest both men and women. Please e-mail book suggestions to Alice at deckalice@cox.net. If interested in helping to screen titles, please send her your name and e-mail address.

Morey Filler writes that he is no longer in obstetrics. Married for 45 years with five grandchildren, Morey just returned from Papua New Guinea. Contact Morey at 300 Beale St. #612, San Francisco, 94105; moreyfil@aol.com.

Doug Hackett took a trip to Alaska in March with his ski club, enduring a blizzard, two avalanches, and a volcano eruption. He also visited with **John Stabb '66** in Anchorage. They hiked some of the Iditarod Trail in the snow, took the auto ferry to Valdez, saw eagles and moose, and ate lots of snow crab, salmon, and halibut.

Doug Riggs was elected president of the board of Redwood Library and Athenaeum in Newport. He is still at the *Providence Journal* as both books and travel editor. Contact Doug at 57 Farewell St., Newport, R.I. 02840; *Providence Journal*, 75 Fountain St., Providence 02902; riggses@verizon.net.

1962

John Muldoon retired from government service after three years in the U.S. Marines and 30-plus years with the CIA. He is now a consultant with Booz Allen Hamilton and living in Va. with his wife, Karen. They have three children and two grandchildren. He'd like to hear from classmates at jmmuldoon@smartneighborhood.net.

Gary Richardson writes: "After many years as a real estate broker in Marin County, Calif., I have retired and live in Tiburon, Calif. While I enjoy the wonderful weather and lifestyle of the Bay Area, I admit that I miss the change of seasons in my home state of Conn. I return there often to visit family. My daughter and her family live in the nearby town of Mill Valley. Does anyone remember the wild days of living in Judson House dorm? It was a former frat house and had a huge martini glass with olives painted on the roof. I remember several of my dorm-mates, but cannot help but wonder about the best ragtime piano player that I have heard, **Kevin O'Leary**.

I would enjoy hearing from classmates." Contact Gary at (415) 435-2204; vardagary@yahoo.com.

1963

Class secretary **Janice Fernald Huang** writes: "The mini-reunion on Mar. 12 was a great success. Those of us who were able to be there enjoyed the presentation by **Michael Cardozo** and the tour of the Yacht Club hosted by **Dayton Carr**. Our web master, **George Bryant**, has posted some pictures on our website. While there, you might consider providing George some personal news. He can post longer biographical material than can be included in the BAM and he is anxious for updates. The address is <http://alumni.brown.edu/classes/1963/>. Click on Reunion and Class Events."

Those attending the mini-reunion included Maryann and **Norm Alt**, **Martha McCauley Anderson** and guest Westa Hopkins, **Sandra Kinder Bertsch**, Nancy and **Michael Cardozo**, **Dayton Carr**, Karen and **R. Glenn Cashion**, **Elaine Piller Congress** and husband Robert Snyder, **George Garland** and guest Polly Franchini, **Lawrence Gross**, **Richard Hirsch**, **Larrine Holbrooke**, **Bruce Mishkin**, **Carol Burchard O'Hare**, Adriana and **Robert Phillips**, **Harris Schrank**, **Robert** and **Diane Jones Sliney '64**, **Justin Sliney '96**, **Eleanor Lindgren Smith**, **Leslie Leopold Sucher** and Arnold Sucher, Sandy and **Walter White**, **Mimi Shorr**, **Charles Blank**, **Carter Booth**, **Dale Burg '62**, and **Michael Littenberg-Brown '04**.

Roger Breslow and his wife, Mary, recently traveled to South America with **Robert Hummerstone '57** and met **Ron Wilsson '64** in Buenos Aires and **Ylonka Szabo '01** in Rio de Janeiro. Roger writes: "So I guess we Brown alumni get around."

Michael Cardozo set a record for the longest tenure of a New York City corporation counsel of seven years and three months. He serves as the city's chief lawyer.

Philip Lewitt retired from his job as professor of humanities at Kyoto Seika Univ. after 32 years in Japanese universities, 19 of them at Seika. He published three novels



Alumnus-in-training David Cedor gets a push from grandfather Dewey Moser '64.

last year. He enjoys great health and practices yoga and meditation, and swims. He and his wife, Tomomi Maeda, have moved to a home on the beach at Railei Beach Club in Krabi, Thailand.

1964

Robin Veeder Dailey purchased a home near her son-in-law's beach house in St. Teresa, Fla., on the panhandle. Her husband, Jim, is still working in the offshore oil field services industry in Houston, and they plan to spend vacations at the beach. Robin writes: "My brother, **Jonathan Veeder '61**, and his wife were here in March for a visit, and we had a great time museum hopping and visiting the Bush Library. Would love to hear from any classmates who might be coming this way."

1965

Roger Deitz (see **Willis Riccio '55**).

Ross Jones retired in 2000 as CFO of Knight Ridder Inc., which is based in San Jose, Calif. Now he splits his time between Delray Beach, Fla., and Osterville, Mass., in Cape Cod. He is working hard at improving his classical guitar. He has been married for 37 years,

earned an MBA from Columbia, and served in the U.S. Army Special Forces in Vietnam.

Edward R. Levin has been appointed a managing partner of Saul Ewing LLP in Washington, D.C. He has more than 35 years of experience representing employers in labor and employment law matters.

1966

Richard A. Levy is working as a research analyst for the Federal Trade Commission. He is approaching his 40th year of federal government service, including an infantry

wondering why I became a lawyer instead of an investment banker."

John Stabb (see **Doug Hackett '61**).

1967

William A. Bachman and his wife, Jane, recently traveled to Vietnam and Cambodia, his first return trip in nearly 40 years. They have supported many Vietnamese charities and orphanages over the years, and he writes that it was gratifying to see some of the results of those efforts.

Ruth Anne Hutchinson Barker has her first grandchild, Harper Elena Lyon Hamann. Ruth's daughter, Sarah Lyon, a professor of anthropology at the Univ. of Kentucky, delivered the healthy baby girl on Inauguration Day—Jan. 20, 2009.

Peter Billings writes: "I am a grandfather. My son, **David Billings '02**, produced **Theo Billings. Class of 2032?**"

Doug Blatz is now the orthopedic consultant to a professional women's soccer team in the Bay Area after years of experience taking care of athletes.

Sharon Drager married **Wyit Wright** (Harvard '67) in Jan. 2007. They originally met at Brown in the summer of 1966 when they were both students at a National Science Foundation Summer Program for high school students. She writes: "We reconnected (via the Internet) in the mid-'90s and finally got together in real life in 2002." Wyit has an IT consulting business in Fayetteville, Ark., and splits time between there and our home in Berkeley, Calif." Sharon continues to practice vascular surgery in the Bay Area.

Alexander Filipp continues to work with cataract/intraocular lens implant surgery in his Albany, N.Y., practice, Bailey, Filipp, and Wakil Eye Physicians & Surgeons PLLC. His wife, Susan, supervises student teachers for St. Rose College. They are enjoying their cabin in Sandgate, Vt., near Arlington. Their daughter, **Larissa '00**, received her MSW at SUNY-Albany and works as a social worker in Schenectady, N.Y.

Jeffrey F. Hitz writes that he was laid off in Nov. and is looking for a job, but has a new granddaughter and is in good health.

Alan Levine has been named chief counsel at the Office of Tax and Revenue in Washington, D.C., where he has worked since Apr. 2006, when he retired after 35 years in the chief counsel's office at the Internal Revenue Service. His son **Max '05** (third generation Brown graduate) is getting his J.D. from Georgetown. His daughter, Pam, teaches tax practice and procedure (litigation) at Georgetown's graduate law program. Alan's wife, Anita, is an elementary school art teacher. His other son, Daniel, lives in New York City with his wife.

Marjorie Marks recently had her knees replaced and is expecting to be back to her routine of mountaineering, biking, and skiing soon. Until then, she is splitting her time between Vail Valley and New York City. She writes that she would love to hear from classmates, especially those who also enjoy athletics and cultural activities.

Glenn Mitchell '69 ScM, '75 MD has been named chief medical officer at the Sisters of Mercy Health System in St. Louis after helping set up a patient safety center. Glenn writes: "I hope to take an active role in revamping our nation's health care system."

David T. Riedel has moved to another Providence law firm, Adler Pollock & Sheehan, after 38 years practicing law with Tillinghast Licht LLP.

Dennis H. Sheahan writes that he is still receiving visitors and will reply to any correspondence, e-mail or snail mail. Contact Dennis at 12911 Lasselle St., Moreno Valley, Calif. 92553; dennissheahan@verizon.net.

Rula Patterson Shore writes: "Graduation was amazing this year. I watched my son **William Thomas Shore '09** receive his ScB with a double concentration in mathematics and economics, and his ScM in mathematics. He was elected into Phi Beta Kappa junior year and graduated magna cum laude and heads to MIT next fall to pursue a doctorate in economics. Furthermore, he received the David Howell Premium for Excellence in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy and was the only Brown student to receive a certificate of honorable mention on the 69th William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition. What made this graduation doubly special is that Billy is the fourth consecutive generation of my family to graduate from Brown. The earliest was my grandfather

Kate Bornstein '69 sports blue nails, a Brown ballcap, and multi-hued body art.



tour in Vietnam. His daughter, **Clara '11**, is a biology concentrator. Contact Richard at 1276 N. Wayne St. #604, Arlington, Va. 22201; rlevy@comcast.net.

Rene Murai has his own business boutique law firm in Miami. He writes: "Given the state of the economy, I am now planning to retire in 2025. After visiting my roommate **Kent Logan's** contemporary art museum next to his home in Vail, I was

CLASSIFIEDS

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DEADLINE
for November/December:
September 20

Irving Patterson, class of 1909. My father was **Irving W. Patterson Jr.** '42, and my mother was **Priscilla Thomas Patterson** '44. Billy graduated exactly 100 years after his great-grandfather! Contact Rula at 634 Cedar Avenue, East Greenwich, R.I. 02818-2607 or rulashore@cox.net

Eric C. Smith writes: "After 30 years in the ditch digging business, I retired on June 1, 2009. Our last son, Ian, is getting married in Aug. After that Nancy and I will be free to do whatever we want. Life is good."

In March **Carolyn Laughlin Vandam** visited **Rob Shannon** '65 and **Meg Vandegraaf Shannon** in Palm Beach Gardens, along with **David Houghton** '66 and **Linda Erikson Houghton**.

Ron Verri writes: "Recently a retrospective of Kenneth Jay Lane's work was held at RISD Museum. Mr. Lane is a RISD graduate and a renowned costume jewelry designer. Many of the styles exhibited were made in our factory, Gem Craft, a 60-year-old family business. My Brown engineering background has been valuable in a business where style, mechanics, finish, and human factors all converge."

Stephen Chandler Visser moved to the San Francisco suburb of Orinda last summer. He writes that the weather and schools are better than in the city.

1968

Joel Bennett has been selected as a 2009 Washington, D.C., Super Lawyer.

Gay Lynn Parrish (see **Rose Weaver LaMountain** '00 MFA).

1969

Anne Bercovitch '71 MMSc (see **Rhana Ishimoto** '00).

Fred Berk married Diane Brown, actress and teacher, in 1979. They have two children, **Leah Berk** '05 and **Shira Berk** (Hofstra '11). Fred is president of Pulpdent Corp. and partner of BK Recording Studios. He enjoys music, travel, and summers on Cape Cod.

Francine Chernack Clark writes: "I have been a writer for the last 21 years, following an almost 20-year teaching career. For the last 10 years, I have also been teaching an introductory math class at URI and I began teaching spring semester 2009 at Salve Regina Univ. in Newport. Living in Newport indulges my passion for the beach. Following a day at work, I can drive five minutes and spend the late afternoon

at Sachuest Beach, reading, walking, and riding the waves. No plans to retire any time soon."

Stephanie Crutcher Deutsch has lived on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., with her husband, David, for 33 years. Stephanie chairs the grants committee of the Capitol Hill Community Foundation. She has written a yet-to-be-published book about Julius Rosenwald and educator and black leader Booker T. Washington, and the program they created together to encourage rural communities in the South to build schools for black children in the early 1900s. David retired from his career as a TV director and is studying for a master's in theological studies at Wesley Seminary.

Bill Flook continues to work as supervisor for psychological services for the Baltimore County Public Schools. His wife, Barbara, is a teacher with the Anne Arundel County Public Schools; daughter Maggie is completing her doctoral studies in chemistry at MIT; son Billy is a reporter for the *Washington Examiner*; and daughter Kate lives with her husband, Peter Desjardins, and their two children, Tommy and Charlie, in Bedford, Mass.

Rich Higginbotham was recently named the chairman of Tygris Commercial Finance Group Inc.

John Leventhal continues to run the Child Abuse Programs and the Child Abuse Prevention Programs at the Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital. He writes that it has been an interesting, challenging, and rewarding career.

Thomas Lindsey and Beverly Bingham were married Mar. 21 in Jefferson, Tex. Contact him at sevenonelima@yahoo.com.

Rauer L. Meyer writes: "Upon the unfortunate demise of Thelen, my firm of 20 years, I've moved across the street to be a partner at Reed Smith, still solving technology and other IP problems." Contact Rauer at 214 S. Van Ness Ave., Los Angeles 90004; rlmeyer@reedsmith.com.

Naomi Neufeld '71 MMSc (see **Rhana Ishimoto '00**).

Barbara Gershon Ryder writes: "My husband, Jonathan, retired from Telcordia Technologies, and we moved to Blacksburg, Va., where I became the first female department head in the history of the College of Engineering at Virginia Tech. I head the computer science department, which comprises 40 faculty. Jon and I welcome contacts from Brown classmates in the southwest Virginia area."



The faculty hail Bruce Spring '74 and his wife, Ingrid Newstadt.

1970

Richard McLaughlin Jr. writes that **Bill Gilbane** hosted a cookout for Brown hockey players from the class of 1970 in Aug. 2008. Attending were **Curt Bennett**, **David Broadway**, **Michael Edwards**, **Bryan Hansen**, **Ted Lally**, **Don McGinnis**, **Richard McLaughlin**, **Keith Powers**, **Frank Sacheli**, **Robert Schwartz**, **George Spellmire**, **John Vukelich**; **John Norwell '67**, **Gerard Boyle '67**; **Thomas Coakley '68**, **Thomas Echeverria '68**, **Robert Rockwood '68**; **Mark Burns '69**, **Bob Walsh '69**; **Bob Gilbane '71**, **Milton Conrad Schmidt '71**; **Bill Coakley '72**, **Mark Donahue '72**, **Dick Ferriter '72**, **Lou Reycroft '72**, **Bill Roland '72**; and **Jack Merrill '73**. Cooking the burgers were players **Matt Palmer '09** and **Scott VanderLinden '10**. **Dennis Macks '67** was unable to attend, but did manage to speak to those present by phone. Contact Richard at rmclaughlin03@cox.net.

Allen Sussman (see **Rhana Ishimoto '00**).

1971

Stephen B. Fullerton has two new restaurant projects due to open in Feb. 2010 next to Gulfstream Park Race Course in Fla. through his company, Caffè Retail. Contact Stephen at sfullerton@cafferetail.us.

1972

Harriet Hanzel Cole (see **Jonathan and Lisa Cole Olin '99**).

Doug Littlefield writes that his new book, *Conflict on the Rio Grande: Water and the Law, 1879-1939*, has just been published by the Univ. of Oklahoma Press. Doug runs a historical consulting business in Oakland, Calif., providing research, writing, and expert witness services in support of water rights, land use, and other environmental litigation. Contact Doug at douglittlefield@aol.com.

Zylpha Pryor-Bell writes: "I recently published my first book, *Be Born Again*. It is available under my name at Amazon.com." Contact Zylpha at zylphapryor@bellsouth.net.

David Speth left Dow Chemical in 2004 and now does engineering development at the Edison Welding Institute. He enjoys biking in central Ohio.

1973

Alan Cole '76 MD (see **Jonathan and Lisa Cole Olin '99**).

Scott Blake Harris has been nominated by President Obama to be general counsel of the Department of Energy. The position is subject to Senate confirmation. Scott lives in Va. with his son, Colin, 18, who will attend Dartmouth in the fall; his daughter, Margot, 16, a sophomore at the National Cathedral School; and his wife, Barbara (Wellesley '78). Contact Scott at sbharris@rcn.com.

Candy Doehlert Simmons is still in Southern Calif., though she moved from the Hollywood Hills to the fringes of Ven-

tura County a couple of years ago. She is now head of budget and finance at the J. Paul Getty Museum and general manager of Getty Publications. She writes: "I'm pleased and relieved to report my son, Nick, graduated from the Univ. of Chicago in June 2008 and is working there in research at the Booth School." Contact Candy at csimmons@getty.edu.

1974

Andrea Lucile Burgo-Black has been with the Veterans' Administration for 25 years as a primary care doctor. She has also worked as a member of the clinical faculty at Yale. She has four children, three in college and one in medical school.

Clytia Montllor Curley writes: "My husband, Joe, and I launched our only daughter,

from my best friend from high school and her son **Ian Hovander '12** just before he headed off to Providence for freshman orientation. Lucky him—three more great years ahead!" Contact Clytia at montcurl@comcast.net.

Scott Harris writes: "Join the class Facebook group (you need to have an account). Search for Brown University Class of 1974."

Marc Alan Silverstein writes that his daughter, **Sydney '12**, just finished her freshman year at Brown, where his son, Zachary, will join her when he starts this fall. Marc continues to enjoy practicing real estate and construction law at Jones Day in Cleveland.

1975

Lovelle A. Clark graduated from Union Theological Seminary in May and plans to become a pastoral counselor and Christian therapist.

Michael Golrick moved from Wisconsin to New Orleans in Nov. 2008. In December he started work at the State Library of La., where he is the state data coordinator. Contact Michael at michael.golrick.75@alumni.brown.edu.

1976

Jeff Brown writes: "What goes around comes around. I find myself back at the family fortress after Brown and many other adventures, helping my spry 78-year-old mother care for my bedridden 85-year-old father, a World War II veteran. I've been writing a lot lately: poems, stories, even a novel, titled *The Sheiks of Al-Anbar*. Agents, publishers, and classmates, drop me a line if you have the time." Contact Jeff at 938 East Allens Ln., Philadelphia 19150.

Becky DeLamotte continues to run her artist management company, Americas Musicworks, which represents Boston-based classical and jazz ensembles that tour nationally and internationally. She recently returned from a concert tour in Thailand where the Duo "2," with flutist Peter H. Bloom and pianist/harpist Mary Jane Rupert, gave two world premieres. She writes: "This was the ideal business trip. The concerts went beautifully, the travel went smoothly, and we had a little time (not nearly enough) to see some sites in this spectacular country." Contact Becky at 29 Newbury St., Somerville, Mass. 02144; delamotte-amw@comcast.net.

Frederick Fish '79 MD and **Lisa Humphrey Fish '77, '81 MD** write that their youngest son, **Colin '12**, is becoming well acquainted with the Seekonk River, rowing with the freshman crew.

Edward Martin accepted a position as chief medical officer at Home & Hospice Care of R.I. He is also a staff physician at several Providence hospitals and a clinical associate professor of medicine at Brown's Warren Alpert Medical School.

Stephen J. Meister has left his pediatric practice for a position as medical director for the Maternal Child Health Division of the Maine CDC and is still enjoying living in Maine. Contact Stephen at 178 Narrows Pond Rd., Winthrop, Me. 04364; meistermcn2@aol.com.

1977

Ken Berman will have his painting *Looking Backwards* exhibited at the State Museum of Philadelphia June 28–Sept. 20.

Gil Neiger '79 provides a lap for his daughter Maxann at a magic show during Field Day.

Nora, off to college in 2006 (she is a sophomore at the Univ. of Southern Calif., along with senior Paul Shapiro, son of **Emily Fenn Shapiro**). That same summer I retired from a research (entomology) position at UC Berkeley, and I now teach biology at every level of public secondary education in the state. I am still in close contact with a few old friends from Brown: **Marcia Yudkin**, **Emily Shapiro**, **Michael Cunning '73**, and **Naomi Segal Deitz**. We also regularly see fellow Bay Area inhabitants **Ed McAlpine '73** (now my brother-in-law), **John MacArthur**, and **Alan Harper '78**. Last summer I had a visit

Lovelle taught at the university level for several years, mostly in English departments.

Christine Gleason has been in Seattle for the past 12 years. She writes that it is a great place to work and raise a family. She is head of neonatology at the Univ. of Washington and just published her first non-medical book: *Almost Home: Stories of Hope and the Human Spirit in the Neonatal ICU*. She has been married to a writer (Erik Larson, Penn '76) for almost 25 years, and they have three daughters: Kristen (Georgetown '10), Lauren (Univ. of Chicago '12), and Erin, 15. Contact Christine at cgleason@u.washington.edu.

Portia Pinkney writes she has not and has never been married to **John H. Pitts '76** as was printed in the May/June issue.

Susan Sampliner is still the company manager of the Broadway musical *Wicked*. She is now the cochair of the Broadway Goes Green campaign and recently produced *Defying Inequality—The Broadway Concert*—a celebrity benefit for equal rights.

1978

Diane Heller received a mini grant from the R.I. Council for the Humanities for research on the film *Edward M. Bannister: An American Artist*. Diane writes that **Nicholas Bruno '76** introduced her to Bannister's story at Commencement 2008 and has since provided his extensive personal R.I. art history research and contacts. To learn more, go to: www.edwardmbannister.com. Contact Diane at info@edwardmbannister.com.

1979

W. Barry Blum writes that he and his wife, Lori P. Blum (John Hopkins '80 MD), are proud that their son, **Jeffrey**, is a member of the class of 2012. They live in Miami, where Barry is Of Counsel to the Minneapolis-based law firm Krass Monroe, P.A. He is also a mediator and arbitrator. Contact Barry at wbarryblum@aol.com.

1980

Joan Munves Boening is president of James Robinson Inc. Her son Justin is in the MFA program at Columbia Univ. in poetry. He is poetry editor of *Columbia: A Journal of Literature and Art*. Her son James is a student at the Univ. of Kansas in Lawrence.

Jon Haberman lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Anne Dullea, and their children, Emma and Joe. A cabinetmaker and designer, Jon has a workshop just outside the city and a company, Jon Haberman Cabinetwork. He continues to play garage rock once a week with a group that includes **Ed Gilland** and **Rich Lucas '89**.

David Harris (see **Abbe Beth Robinson Young '58**).

Curtis Kendrick is on the board of directors of Mouse, a nonprofit that creates technology-based opportunities for underserved students to succeed in today's information society. Contact Curtis at curtis.kendrick@mail.cuny.edu.

Amy Goldman London's younger daughter,

Stephanie, will enter Brown this fall as a member of the class of 2013. Amy's older daughter, Liz, is a junior at Vassar. Amy has worked at the New York City law department since she graduated from law school, and is currently a senior counsel in the tort division. Contact Amy at alondon@law.nyc.gov.

Melanie Mitchell has a new book out for general readers, *Complexity: A Guided Tour*, published by Oxford Univ. Press. Melanie is currently a professor of computer science at Portland State Univ. and external professor at the Santa Fe Institute. She lives in Portland, Ore., with her husband, Kendall Springer, and two sons, Jacob, 9, and Nicholas, 7. Contact Melanie at mm@pdx.edu.

Brad Richards is an attorney and partner at Hayes & Boone LLP in Houston. He has been married to his wife, Amy, for 27 years, after proposing on the eve of graduation in 1980. They have three young adult children: Neal (Georgetown Law '10), Jennifer (Vassar '10), and Paul (Hendrix '12). Contact Brad at richardb@haynesboone.com.

Medina Sampanis Vasily writes that her daughter Elizabeth was accepted into Brown's class of 2013 and will be attending Brown in the fall.

1981

Beth Merkin (see **Berry Merkin '57**).

Gary Glickman writes: "The Dream Brothers (my partner Stephan David Hewitt and I) performed in Provincetown, Mass., in June and July, at the Unitarian Meeting House Theater, from our album of original songs, based on Walt Whitman Lyrics in a show called 'Walt Whitman Sings Provincetown: Songs of Liberation, Body and Soul.' Visit our website for songs and several performance videos at www.dreambrothersmusic.com." Gary finished coursework in the spring for a doctorate in somatic psychology. Contact Gary at gary@dreambrothersmusic.com.

Kathleen Palombo King was awarded the 2009 AERA Outstanding Research Publication Award with fellow editor Joan Griggs for their collected volume, *Harnessing Innovative Technology in Higher Education*. The award was presented at the American Education Research Association division I meeting in April. Contact Kathleen at drkpkking@gmail.com.

1982

Robert Abbatomarco (see **Phil and Patricia Abbatomarco '57**).



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Ronn Gaines writes: "After spending more than 17 years in the great Northwest (Seattle), I recently relocated to the Washington, D.C., area. Given the historic nature of the recent election, the D.C. area is abuzz with all sorts of activity and important happenings. Exciting to have returned at this time. My son, Tristan, is 13 and my daughter, Marissa, is 10. Any and all (especially classmates) are welcome to e-mail." Contact Ronn at ronng9598@comcast.net.

Josh Grotstein (see **Chris O'Brien** '91).

Elisabeth Young Harris (see **Abbe Beth Robinson Young** '58).

Julia Flynn Siler has a new book, *The Lost Kingdom*, forthcoming from Grove Press. The film rights for her last book, *The House of Mondavi: The Rise and Fall of an American Wine Dynasty*, have just been optioned by a veteran Hollywood producer.

Frances Melvin Silva writes that she, husband Vic, and son Christopher are all enjoying jobs, family, and school. She would love to hear from friends to catch up. Frances is still with Medical Device Consultants Inc., in North Attleboro, Mass. Contact Frances at fsilva@aasp.net.

Philip Squattrito is completing his 20th year on the faculty at Central Michigan Univ. This summer he will begin a one-year term as chair of the academic senate. He writes that he has been in contact recently with classmates **Barbara Ballin Newman** and **Bill Hazard**. Contact Philip at p.squattrito@cmich.edu.

1983

Karen Brinkmann writes that her daughter, Katherine, 15, died at home on March 30. A burial service was held at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 10033 River Rd., Potomac, Md. 20854, on May 16. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Katherine's memory may be made to St. Francis (www.stfrancispotomac.org) or to KEEN of Greater Washington, D.C. (www.keengreaterdc.org). Contact Karen at 8017 Carita Ct., Bethesda,

Md. 20817; karen.brinkmann@lw.com.

Deahn Berrini Leblang's novel *Milkweed* was published by Somerset Hall Press in May. The story, set on the coast north of Boston, follows a soldier's return home during the Vietnam years. Deahn writes that the book was inspired by a Vietnam seminar taught by Brown history professor Charles Neu.

Bob Walsh writes that he still hopes to make a complete recovery from his stroke last January.

1984

Jennifer Gentin (see **Nicolas Gentin** '95).

Alan Gurvey (see **Rhana Ishimoto** '00).

Marjorie Bearse Young Chimes (see **Abbe Beth Robinson Young** '58).

Susan Klawans has been named a vice president of Gilbane Building Company, where she serves as the corporate director of client satisfaction.

Iiana Locker is living in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Contact her at i_locker@yahoo.com.

Joan Winter Skerritt '85 AM and **Michael Skerritt** celebrated their 25th reunion; the graduation of their son, **Ben Skerritt** '09; and the 50th reunion of Mike's mother, **Eve Naramore Skerritt** '59, on Memorial Day weekend. Their daughter Kim is a junior at Johns Hopkins, and their twins, Liz and Jen, are juniors in high school. Contact Joan at jskerritt@cox.net.

Gwen Wynne (see **Nicolas Gentin** '95).

1985

Brooke Dammkoehler (see **Rose Weaver LaMountain** '00 MFA).

Debra Lang recently accepted a job teaching leadership skills to non-managers and loves it. She still lives in northern Va. and can be found on Facebook. Contact Debra at dslang13@verizon.net.

1986

Jonathan Gentin (see **Nicolas Gentin** '95).

Andrew Young (see **Abbe Beth Robinson Young** '58).

Wendell Pritchett has been appointed chancellor of Rutgers Univ.-Camden, the southernmost of Rutgers's three campuses. A scholar of urban history and policy, Wendell was previously a professor and dean at the Univ. of Pennsylvania Law School.

1987

William Ankenbrandt '90 MD writes: "Bill Cartwright and I celebrated 23 years together with a beach bonfire." Contact William at 1330 W. Elmdale Ave., # 2W; Chicago 60660-2516; wjankenbrandt@earthlink.net.

1988

Jennifer Wayne writes that she is now going by her middle name, Coby, "in the spirit of youthfulness." She and her partner, Kain Sanderson, recently formed Energy Arts Alliance, a consulting, education, and media organization that specializes in partnering with performers, artists, arts philanthropists, entrepreneurs, and thought leaders to help provide creativity, frameworks, structure, and forecasting for their projects and businesses so they can translate them faster from ideas to viable realities. Coby is chief experience officer and evolution consultant. When not working and traveling, she and Kain sing with the United Nations Association International Choir, and Coby does monthly poetry readings and art exhibitions. Contact Coby at 811 Lovett Blvd. #3, Houston 77006; coby@energyartsalliance.com.

1989

Terri Clark lives in Los Angeles with her husband, Dan (UCLA '88), and their two sons, Joseph, 9, and John, 4. She is executive director of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Foundation, the charitable arm of the Emmys that focuses on education and archival programs.

Rich Lucas (see **Jon Haberman** '80).

1991

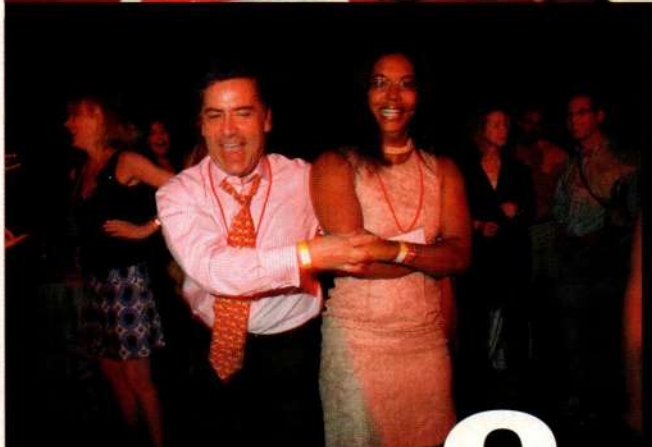
Chris O'Brien is the cofounder, chairman, and executive vice president of corporate development at Motionbox Inc., a video-sharing website. The start-up is run by several alumni, including CEO **Josh Grotstein** '82, VP of Engineering **Chris Brown** '94, Product Director **Yael Kropsky** '96, and Product Manager **Michael DiBianco** '96. You can find them at www.motionbox.com.

1992

Shannon Blumer Atkinson and husband Mike Atkinson (Duke GEMBA '08) announce the May 9, 2008, arrival of their fourth son, Stone Joseph. She writes: "His

CONTACT US

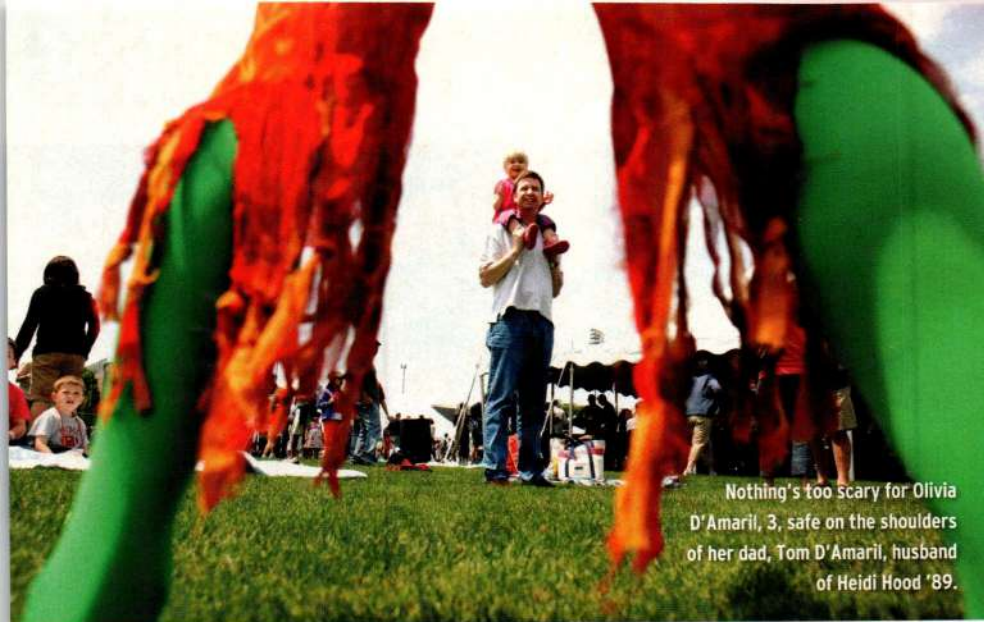
E-mail us with your news. Send class notes by e-mail to alumni_magazine@brown.edu. Or submit them by logging on to www.brownalumnimagazine.com/links/contact-us.



1984

The 25th reunion was a chance to cut loose. Clockwise, from the top: Anne Haley-Brown and Paula Clark Green recap the weekend via digital camera, Tracy Brownell Weisman and Tony Weisman '82 show their true colors at Commencement, and Jim Kallman gives a lift to a tired son William. Andrea Hirschfeld Unterberger keeps good time in Sayles Hall, and The GrooveBarbers (left to right: Steve Keyes, Sean Altman '83, Kevin Weist, and Charlie Evett) croon, while Margery Teller and Reid Norris Buckley catch up and José Estabil teaches Anne Haley-Brown to swing dance.





Nothing's too scary for Olivia D'Amaril, 3, safe on the shoulders of her dad, Tom D'Amaril, husband of Heidi Hood '89.

big brothers, Luke, 6, Miles, 5, and Van, 2, cannot get enough of their newest little brother. Our home is loud and chaotic and we love it!" Contact Shannon at scbatkinson@mac.com.

1993

Hilary Howell McAvoy and husband, Arjun McAvoy, announce the Jan. 5 birth of their daughter, Keira Howell, in San Francisco. Contact Hilary at hahdesign@gmail.com.

Tammy Wu '97 MD reports that her husband, **Calvin Lee** '97 MD, performed on the violin at Carnegie Hall in the first YouTube Symphony Orchestra Apr. 15. Michael Tilson Thomas of the San Francisco Symphony conducted. Calvin and Tammy, who live in Modesto, Calif., and are in private practice at Surgical Artistry Inc., were in New York City a few days before the performance.

Calvin was featured in the May/June issue of the BAM. Contact Tammy and Calvin at twu@surgerytoday.com and stradviolin2020@yahoo.com.

1994

Daniel Berg married Michelle Ong on May 23. They live in St. Louis just one block away from **Chris Armstrong**. Contact Daniel at danielralphberg@hotmail.com.

Dusty Horwitt lives in Washington, D.C., where he works for an environmental nonprofit. He spends his free time writing freelance articles and playing the guitar. Contact Dusty at 2301 E St. NW, #A819, Washington, D.C. 20037.

Wendy Wan-Sir Lin '98 MD and her husband, Bergt, announce the Dec. 19 birth of their first child, Breanna Lin Bieler. Wendy writes: "We are adjusting

to the sleepless nights of parenthood in our new home in Calabasas, Calif."

1995

Robert Di Marco and his wife, **Maria T. Davila** '93, announce the Mar. 11 birth of their daughter, Petra Luisa Di Marco Davila. Petra joins siblings Destiny, 7, Giovanni, 4, and Juan Ines, 2. Robert has his own business law practice, and Maria is a professor of ethics at Andover Newton Theological School. They welcome friends to write and visit. Contact them at 17 Division St., Malden, Mass. 02148; rdimarco@rwdm.com.

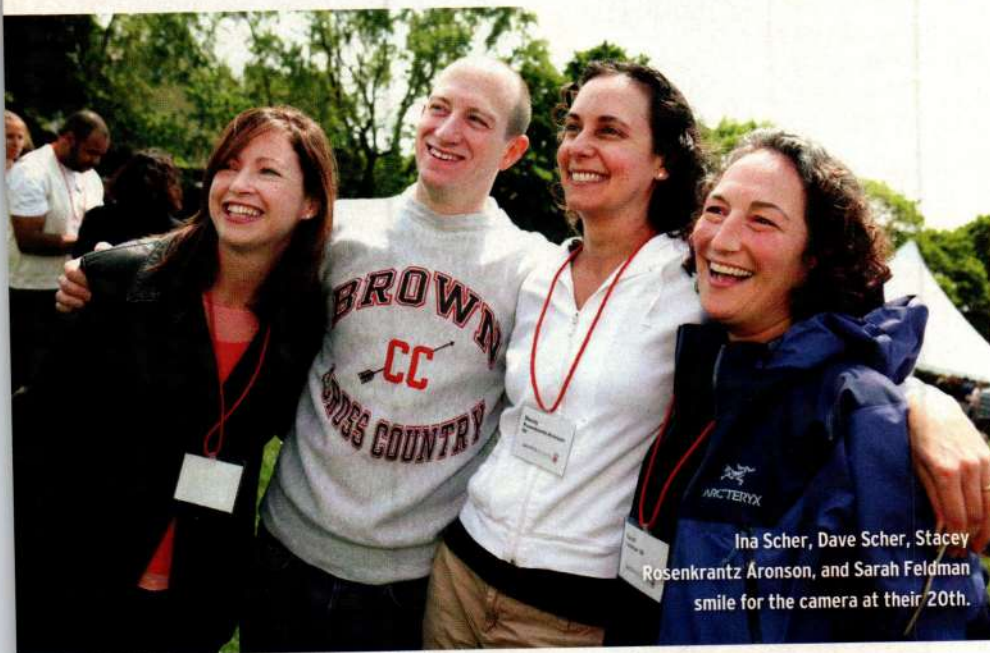
Nicolas Gentin married Olivia Svilik (Stanford '00) in Los Angeles on Nov. 8. Nicolas's brother Andrew served as best man and brother **Jonathan Gentin** '86 and sister **Jennifer Gentin** '84 were also in the wedding party. Other Brown friends included **Vik Agrawal** '94, **Mark Ghaly** '96, **Joel Kent**, **John Nicholson** '96, **Marcos Rollan** '98, **Charlton Rugg**, **Lawrence Woocher**, **Gwen Wynne** '84, **Kevin Yuann** '00, and **Stacey Zolondek**. Nicolas and Olivia live and work in San Francisco and can be reached at ngentin2000@kellogg.northwestern.edu.

Anna Russakoff announces the Feb. 8 birth of her son, Jerome Bernard Engammare. She is living in Paris with her husband, Philippe Engammare (Sciences Po '84), who just started his own cooking business: www.parschef.fr. After completing her PhD at NYU in 2006, Anna is now an assistant professor of art history at the American Univ. of Paris. Anna is on Facebook and LinkedIn; contact her at a_russakoff@yahoo.com.

Deb Weisshaar and her husband, Jonathan Ringel (Penn '90), announce the Mar. 6 birth of their daughter, Lucy Jessica Ringel, in Atlanta. Deb is a practicing psychologist and a visiting lecturer at Georgia State Univ. Contact Deb at deb_atl@yahoo.com.

1996

Ilaria Alber-Glanstaetten announces the Nov. 12 birth of son Leonardo. Ilaria and her husband, Andre, are still living in London and have launched their own businesses. Ilaria is running a marketing agency called Provenance, and Andre has founded Bundle Tech, a start-up to facilitate cross-border e-commerce. They are doing something to promote consumer confidence in the recession: Fuel the Economy! See www.fueltheeconomy.org. Contact Ilaria at Ilaria.alber@gmail.com.



Ina Scher, Dave Scher, Stacey Rosenkrantz Aronson, and Sarah Feldman smile for the camera at their 20th.

James Damian is engaged to Kim Keir (Mansfield Univ.). The wedding is planned for Aug. 1 in Wysox, Pa. Contact James at brownbear96@comcast.net.

Michael DiBianco (see **Chris O'Brien** '91).

Yael Kropsky (see **Chris O'Brien** '91).

Michael and **Katie Killoran Milewski** announce the Sept. 9 birth of their daughter, Audrey Grace Milewski. Michael writes that big brother John Patrick, 4, is very excited to have a little sister. Contact Michael at mikemilewski@comcast.net.

Alex Rein and his wife, **Vanessa Castellar Rein**, announce the Dec. 4 birth of their daughter, Charlotte Emma. Alex writes: "She's absolutely amazing and we love being parents. I am a practicing endocrinologist and on the faculty of the Univ. of Pennsylvania Medical School. After earning my MBA from Wharton, I'm working in the solar industry with SunPower Corp. We live in the Philadelphia area and would love to hear from friends at vanessarein@gmail.com and alex@alexrein.com."

Rajiv K. Sethi and **Aya Kimoto Sethi** write that they are happily living in Seattle with two boys, ages 1 and 3. Rajiv is an orthopedic spine surgeon and Aya does part-time community development and education projects. They welcome correspondence from Brown grads in the area. Contact Rajiv at sethirajiv01@hotmail.com.

Kajal Sitwala, David Kim, and 4-year-old Kairi announce the birth of Rowan Shaan Kim. Contact Kajal at kajal.sitwala@gmail.com.

Justin Sliney (see **Janice Fernald Huang** '63).

Gian Varbaro married Kerry Drozdowicz (UConn '00) on Nov. 15 in Orange, Conn. The wedding party included best men **David Danon** '99 and **Ross Leitner**, as well as **Dan Brinlee** '97. Other Brown alums in attendance included **Jon Ehrhardt**, **Adrienne Shin Ehrhardt**, **Jody Fanto** '97, **David Jesser**, and **Knox McMullan**. Gian and Kerry currently live in New Haven.

1997

Jonathan M. Stein and his wife, Mollie Stein (Rutgers '00), announce the Mar. 22 birth of Kylie Joy Stein at Long Island Jewish Hospital in New York. They write that Kylie's uncle, **Joshua Stein** '01, is equally thrilled, and they look forward to the Stein family's second generation at Brown. Contact Jonathan at jmstein7@hotmail.com.

1998

Cort Malone announces his Feb. 7 marriage to Jennifer Alampi (Columbia '00) in White Plains, N.Y. He writes: "Although the ceremony was a small, family-only affair, we were surprised and thrilled when my four-year Brown roommate and best friend, **David Fauvre**, showed up to celebrate with us at the after party. Thanks to all the rest of the Brown crew who sent along gifts and well wishes!" Contact Cort at cmalone12776@yahoo.com.

1999

Bruce Bates (see **Bruce Bates** '61).

Erin Middendorp announces her Apr. 18 marriage to Michael Pilgrim in Chippewa Falls, Wisc. Erin is currently teaching high school science and Mike is a dairy farmer

tact Lisa at lkcole@yahoo.com.

Taraneh Shirazian '03 MD works as a faculty ob-gyn at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City. She is also the director of global health for the department and most recently became the medical director for a new nonprofit called Saving Mothers (www.savingmothers.org). Contact Taraneh at tareneh.shirazian@mssm.edu.

2000

Larissa Filipp (see **Alexander Filipp** '67).

Frederick Harkins and wife Michelle Cortes-Harkins started their own independent wealth management practice, Harkins Associates Wealth Management Solutions, located at 132 George M. Cohan Blvd., Providence. Frederick formerly worked for Citizens Bank and Edward Jones Invest-



Mandy Peters '94 and her son Hazen, 8, check out the magic show at Field Day.

and a logger. She writes: "I own only one of the cows but I am working on getting chickens and growing a big garden. I love it and if anyone happens to be over this way stop by. We could always use some help (just kidding). We would be happy to show you the Wisconsin life."

Jonathan and **Lisa Cole Olin** announce the Nov. 13 birth of Max Alexander Olin. Lisa writes that grandparents **Alan** '73, '76 MD and **Harriet Hanzel Cole** '72 are excited. Lisa recently finished her residency in internal medicine at George Washington Univ. and is a physician at Sibley Hospital in Washington, D.C. Jon is an attorney with Jenner and Block, also in D.C. Con-

ments. Contact Frederick at (401) 272-2040; frederick.harkins@jpl.com.

Rhana Ishimoto and **Robert Bercovitch** '04 MD announce their Jan. 19, 2009, marriage in Santa Monica, Calif. Rhana writes: "We met as freshman living next to each other on the fourth floor of Emery-Woolley and became fast friends, but it took us until senior year to begin dating." The wedding party included Rhana's sister, Moya Ishimoto '03, and Robert's brother, Paul Bercovitch '02, and parents, Anne Bercovitch '69, '71 MMSc, and Lionel Bercovitch, who teaches in the Warren Alpert Medical School. Also in attendance were George Liu, Steve Cohn, Negar Aliabadi,

Kate Hong, Simran Sethi, Moises Zamora, James Perkins, Carla Chibweshi '05 MD, Michael Garvey '04 MD, Sang Lee '03, Dewen Tarn '02, Leah Mann '03, Sandeep Parikh '02, Rains Paden '02, Allen Sussman '70, Alan Gurvey '84, and Naomi Neufeld '69, '71 MMSc. The couple is currently living in San Diego, where Rob is a fellow in pulmonary/critical care at UC San Diego and Rhana is an assistant chief counsel at the Department of Homeland Security / Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Contact Rhana at rhanai@gmail.com.

Rainy LaVenture and **Adam Tarr** '99 announce the Feb. 8 birth of their son, Noah Henry Tarr, in Denver. They write that everyone is happy and healthy. Rainy is taking some time off from teaching fourth

Jerome Sable recently completed the McGill Conservatory of Music in piano and won the 2009 Coca-Cola Refreshing Filmmaker's Award. **Eli Batalion** '02 was co-composer and the lead actor in the film.

Ylonka Szabo (see **Roger Breslow** '63).

2002

David Billings (see **Peter Billings** '67).

Robert Carruthers exchanged vows with Mollie Dahlgren (Cornell '03) on Apr. 4 in New Orleans, where they attended medical school at Tulane. Best man **David Anthony**, groomsman **Thomas Carruthers** '00, groomsday **Eun Ha Kim** '01, former The Goods band-mate **Matthew Herz**,

gration issues in the state, including the N.C. ACLU. It has the potential to impact policymakers considering the adoption of 287(g)—a program that allows local law enforcement to check immigration status. I graduated in May 2008 with a master's in city and regional planning and currently work for the City of New York's department of Housing preservation and development." Contact Lindsay at lindsay_haddix@alumni.brown.edu.

2003

Abigail Barrett announces her May 30 marriage to **Jonathan Bloom** in Manning Chapel. Abigail is the daughter of **John T. Barrett Jr.** '67, and the granddaughter of **Elisabeth Crowley Allen** '39 and **Dr. John T. Barrett** '39.

Karen Dmytrasz graduated from Tufts Univ. School of Medicine in May. She writes that she is thrilled to begin her residency in family medicine at Maine Medical Center in Portland. Contact Karen at karen.dmytrasz@alumni.brown.edu.

Hilary Gerstein (see **Alvin Gerstein** '54).

2004

Michael Littenberg-Brown (see **Janice Fernald Huang** '63).

2005

Leah Berk (see **Fred Berk** '69).

Jennifer Hanson Isaacs and her husband, Capt. Russell Isaacs, announce the Mar. 24 birth of their daughter, Chloe Anne, in Tacoma, Wash. Three weeks later the family relocated to Fort Knox, Ky., for a five-month military assignment and plans to move again in Sept. to Fort Bragg, N.C.

Max Levine (see **Alan Levine** '67).

Reece Pacheco writes that he and **Daniel Spinoso** cofounded Overtime Media Inc. and produced HomeField, a product that allows coaches to upload game and practice video to the web for the team to view and study. More than 150 sports programs are registered in the database at this point. Additionally, Daniel announces his Apr. 11 marriage to Nevin Rifat on Long Island. Brown alums in attendance included **Mark Girolamo**, **Kirk Teatom**, **Nick Gentilesco** '06, **Alexander Keating Bowman**, **Xiaoti Xu**, **Allison Chatalbash**, **Brian Wood** '04, and **Reece Pacheco**.

Yousra Fazili and Chiniqua Milligan, both '99, try to grab a little mom time, but Milligan's daughter objects.



and fifth grade to get used to being a mom, while Adam continues his work in electrical engineering at a company that specializes in satellite technology. Contact Rainy at rainy_laventure@alumni.brown.edu and Adam at atarr@alumni.brown.edu.

Kevin Yuann (see **Nicolas Gentin** '95).

2001

Ana Ivkovic is in her second year of psychiatry residency at Boston Medical Center and is writing about various experiences in emergency psychiatry. Contact Ana at ana.ivkovic31@gmail.com.

Martin Lichtman '01 (see **Alvin Gerstein** '54).

and **Tony Wei** '01 attended the ceremony. Robert and Mollie are currently completing their medical internships at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Contact Robert at rcarruthers@partners.org.

Carolyn Chang (see **Robert O'Such** '55).

Lindsay Haddix writes: "In Apr. 2009 I received an Impact Award from the Graduate Education Advancement Board of the Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for my master's project, *Immigration and Crime in North Carolina: Beyond the Rhetoric*. My research on the relationship between reported crime and immigrant population growth has been used by key groups interested in immi-

2008

Blair Hickman will embark on a fundraising road trip this summer to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. Her trip is in memory of her mom, following a road trip she took in 1977. Along the way Blair will stop at 10 Ronald McDonald houses to serve dinner. Her team is in the middle of a big fundraising push, including a search for a hybrid car, and invites you to visit their website at <http://casserolesforcancer.com> for more information. Please e-mail casserolesforcancer@gmail.com with any questions. Contact Blair at hickman.blair@gmail.com.

2009

William (Billy) Thomas Shore (see **Rula Patterson Shore '67**).

GS

William Peterson '48 AM (see '48).

Norm Sprinthall '59 AM (see '54).

Jim Moody '65 ScM (see **Jill Hirst Scobie '58**).

Glenn Mitchell '69 ScM, '75 MD (see '67).

Anne Bercovitch '71 MMSc (see **Rhana Ishimoto '00**).

Naomi Neufeld '71 MMSc (see **Rhana Ishimoto '00**).

Michael Skerritt '84 ScB (see **Joan Winter Skerritt '84**).

Joan Winter Skerritt '85 AM (see '84).

Christopher Clouet '87 AM has been selected to serve as superintendent of schools in White Plains, N.Y. Since leaving Brown, Chris has worked in urban education as a public school teacher, a high school principal, and a superintendent. He completed a doctorate at Teachers College, Columbia Univ. He is currently superintendent of the New London (Conn.) Public Schools.

George Smith '89 PhD is founder and president of the Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts. Headquartered in Portland, Me., it is the first U.S. school established for the sole purpose of providing doctoral studies in art theory and philosophy to visual artists. Contact George at gsmith@idsva.org.

Lawrence Morales '95 ScM recently completed his PhD in learning sciences and cognitive studies at the Univ. of Washing-



Class Marshal Alexandra Steel '04 wields her baton.

ton. Since receiving his master's degree in mathematics at Brown he's been a mathematics professor in Seattle, but he decided to return to school to study how students are motivated to learn in college mathematics classrooms. Contact Lawrence at lmorales@alumni.brown.edu.

John Robinson '95 MFA recently published his first novel, *A Fistful of Diamonds*, with McBooks Press. It is about the blood diamond trade in Rwanda and the Dominican Republic of the Congo and is an offshoot of his trip to Kigali in 2000 to research and write the plot for the movie *Hotel Rwanda*. Contact John at jbr@balfourcommercial.com.

Rose Weaver LaMountain '00 MFA writes that she is performing one of her own plays in Los Angeles: her thesis play, *Skips in the Record*, about Alzheimer's disease. Her *Menopause Mama* continues to tour. The new piece is a solo work called *The Incomparable Ethel Waters: A Night of Stormy Weather*. Rose also revitalized the nonprofit she founded, *Waterspill Junction*, for this project. She writes: "I happened to mention to the Brown Women's Committee here in Los Angeles that I was developing this one-woman show for the Los Angeles Women's Theatre Festival. Not only have the ladies signed on to come to the show; it is now directed by Brooke Dammkoehler '85, with production management by Gay Lynn Parrish '68 and additional costume elements by Diane Heller '78." Contact Rose at Ethel_Waters_Star@yahoo.com.

Marisa Nardo '02 AM teaches English

as a second language to kindergarten and grade one students for the Mass. Public School Department.

MD

Stephen Sullivan '67 MD, '69 MMSc still practices ophthalmology, is married, and has four sons and four grandchildren.

Glenn Mitchell '75 MD (see '67).

Alan Cole '76 MD (see **Jonathan and Lisa Cole Olin '99**).

Frederick Fish '79 MD (see '76).

Lisa Humphrey Fish '81 MD (see **Frederick Fish '76**).

William Ankenbrandt '90 MD (see '87).

Calvin Lee '93, '97 MD (see **Tammy Wu '93, '97 MD**).

Wendy Wan-Sir Lin '98 MD (see '94).

Taraneh Shirazian '03 MD (see '99).

Robert Bercovitch '04 MD (see **Rhana Ishimoto '00**).

Michael Garvey '04 MD (see **Rhana Ishimoto '00**).

Carla Chibweshi '05 MD (see **Rhana Ishimoto '00**). B

CONTACT US

E-mail us with your news. Send class notes by e-mail to alumni_magazine@brown.edu. Or submit them by logging on to www.brownalumnimagazine.com/links/contact-us.

OBITUARIES

Survivors and friends of the deceased can help by completing the obituary form at brownalumnimagazine.com or by sending information to OBITUARIES, Brown Alumni Magazine, Box 1854, Providence, R.I. 02912; by fax to (401) 863-9599; or by e-mail to alumni_magazine@brown.edu. To contact the editors, call (401) 863-2873. The deadline for the November/December issue is September 1, and the deadline for the January/February issue is November 1.

1930s

York A. King Jr. '33, of Downingtown, Pa.; Feb. 17. He owned and operated Rose Exterminator Co. in Philadelphia until his retirement in 1973. He was a member of Brown's baseball, basketball, and track teams, as well as of Phi Kappa Psi. He served as chair of the library board in the town of Bala Cynwyd and as a board member of the Pennsylvania State Library. He was active in the Philadelphia Junior Chamber of Commerce, Americans for the Competitive Enterprise System, and the Brown Club of Philadelphia. He is survived by a daughter, **Caroline King Hall** '60, '73 PhD; a son; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Maury Caito '34, of Cranston, R.I.; Mar. 12. He was the retired president and treasurer of Bruin Paper Box Inc. in Providence. He was a member of the baseball and football teams at Brown and was inducted as an All-Decade Team member for 1930-39. He was known as one of football's "Three Musketeers." After coaching football at Haverford College in Pennsylvania, he returned to Brown in 1936 as an assistant freshman football coach. He served on the R.I. State Board of Education, and the board of Bradley Hospital in East Providence. He was president of the Italo-American Club of R.I., a director of the Aurora Civic Assoc., a director of the R.I. Philharmonic Orchestra, and a member of the Providence Rotary Club, the Metacommet Country Club, the Brown Faculty Club, and St. Paul's Church in Cranston. He is survived by his wife, Lucia; a daughter; a son; two grandchildren; two sisters; and several nieces and nephews.

Allen E. Hastings '34, '38 PhD, of Athol, Mass., formerly of Washington, D.C.; Mar. 14. He was a retired physicist for the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. After retiring to Athol, he enjoyed cabinetmaking and building and repairing organs. He was a member of the Athol Congrega-

tional Church and a church organist at both St. Francis of Assisi and First Church Templeton. He enjoyed hiking, camping, astronomy, and photography. He is survived by two sisters and several nieces and nephews.

Angelo A. Danella '35, of Seekonk, Mass.; Dec. 19, of a heart condition. He was the pharmacy director at Butler Hospital in Providence from 1968 to 1979. Previously, he was the owner and operator of Blue Star Pharmacy in Pawtucket, R.I. He was a member of the senior center of East Providence and enjoyed oil painting, dancing, traveling, playing cards, and golfing. He is survived by two daughters, two grandsons, and three sisters.

Eleanor K. Tarpy '37, of Pawtucket, R.I.; Mar. 8. She worked in Rhode Island's child welfare department and at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Brockton, Mass., until her retirement in 1991. She was a member of the American Assoc. of Social Workers and the American Assoc. of Medical Social Workers, as well as secretary/treasurer of the Quota Club of Pawtucket. In 1998 she received a Brown Alumni Service Award. She enjoyed cooking, traveling, and playing golf and bridge. She is survived by a sister-in-law and several nieces and nephews, including **Richard O'Connell Jr.** '76 and **Moira Murphy-Aguilar** '85.

Francis X. Hope Jr. '38, of Barrington, Ill.; Mar. 5. He was a lawyer in Paoli, Ill., for many years. During World War II he served in the U.S. Navy. He is survived by two sons.

John A. Priest '38, of Seattle, Wash.; Dec. 31. He worked as corporate counsel for the Simpson Timber Co. in Seattle and as an equal opportunity compliance officer for Boeing. During World War II he served in the U.S. Navy. He is survived by his wife, Legh; three daughters; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Sherwin J. Kapstein '39, of Providence; Mar. 24. He was a retired teacher and coach at Lockwood and Aldrich high schools in Warwick, R.I. During World War II he served in the U.S. Navy. He was past president of the R.I. Assoc. of School Committees, executive director of the National Education Assoc. in R.I., and a member of the R.I. House of Representatives. At Brown he played football and basketball and ran track. He is survived by a daughter, **Deborah Kapstein Bronitsky** '69 MAT; two sons; and four grandchildren.

Warren S. Landers '39, of West Falmouth, Mass.; Mar. 8, after a long illness. He was a research biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Cambridge, Mass.; Milford, Conn.; Kingston, R.I.; and Woods Hole, Mass., before retiring to West Falmouth in 1980. During World War II he served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; two daughters; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Gregory Murin '39, of Waterford, Conn., formerly of Scarsdale, N.Y.; Mar. 17, after a short illness. He owned and operated Crestwood Liquor Store in Tuckahoe, N.Y., and worked as a computer programmer for IBM until his retirement in 1973. During World War II he served in the U.S. Navy. He was a member of the Crescent Cruising Club and served several terms on the Waterford East Lyme Shellfish Commission. He enjoyed sailing, skiing, and traveling. He is survived by a son and a grandson.

Robert O. Sibold '39, of Cheshire, Conn.; Mar. 19. He held management positions at AMF in Essex, Conn., and at Bristol Co. in Waterbury, Conn., while teaching business classes at Middlesex Community College in Middletown, Conn. He also worked as a sales representative for both Cranston (R.I.) Print Works and Brockton Adhesives in East Providence. He was a member of Mill Plain Union Church in Waterbury and enjoyed collecting stamps and coins and watching the Boston Red Sox. He is survived by his wife, Ethel; a son; a sister; and several nieces and nephews.

Margaret Gainer Wright '39, of Boxborough, Mass., formerly of Groton, Mass.; Mar. 12. She was an actress, homemaker, and recreation supervisor for the American Red Cross in Fort Devens, Mass. She worked in professional theater and summer stock. She was a

member of the Actor's Equity Assoc. and Phi Beta Kappa. She is survived by a daughter, two sons, and two grandchildren.

1940s

Robert L. Beir '40, of New York City; Mar. 27. He was the president of Arthur Beir & Co. Inc. in New York City. He taught history for ten years to high school students at Calhoun School and three years at Marymount College. During World War II he served in the U.S. Navy as a liaison officer in Great Britain. He was chairman of the Calhoun School board of trustees, former president of the Harmonie Club (N.Y.), vice president of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, and a member of the United Nations Chairman's Council. At age 85, he wrote and published *Roosevelt and the Holocaust*. The Robert L. Beir Scholarship still exists today at Brown. He is survived by his wife, Joan; a son; two daughters; and three grandchildren.

Robert T. Handy '40, of Oakland, N.J.; Jan. 8, of cardiac arrest. He was a professor at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, from which he retired in 1986 as the Henry Sloane Coffin Professor of Church History. He served in the U.S. Army as a chaplain. He was president of the American Society of Church History and the American Baptist Historical Society, and was adjunct professor of religion at Columbia from 1973 to 1986. He was a member of the Faith and Order Commission, the National Council of Churches, and the General Board of the American Baptist Churches. After retiring from Union, he continued to write articles and reviews, guide doctoral candidates as a visiting professor in the graduate school of Drew Univ., and serve as a member of the steering committee of the Project of Church and State at Princeton. He is survived by a daughter; two sons, including Stephen Handy, 85 Monhegan Ave., Oakland, N.J. 07436; and four granddaughters.

Catherine Forbush Bass '41, of Edgecomb, Me.; Feb. 16, after a long illness. She owned and operated Maplewood Farm in Strong, Me., providing maple syrup to several hotels in the Boston area. She was a member of First Congregational Church in Wilton, Me., and enjoyed knitting, stenciling, and golf. She is survived by two daughters, four grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Marvin E. Boisseau Jr. '41, of University

City, Mo.; Feb. 11, of heart disease. He practiced law in St. Louis for many years before becoming University City's municipal judge. He retired in 1993. During World War II he served in the U.S. Army. He was a member of the Missouri Bar Assoc., Americans for Democratic Action, the local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, Planned Parenthood, and the Sierra Club. Phi Beta Kappa. He is survived by a sister, three stepchildren, three nephews, and a niece.

Paul F. Dickert '41, of San Jose, Calif.; Mar. 25, of complications from Parkinson's disease. He worked with the U.S. Geological Survey, taught at San Jose State Univ., and consulted for various mining and oil companies. He served in the U.S. Air Force and received several decorations for valor. He was a founding member of the nonprofit Silicon Valley Public Access Link, an active member of the Friends of the (San Jose) Library, and a board member of the Soirée Musicale. He enjoyed the ballet and opera.

Theodore I. Libby '41, of Key Biscayne, Fla., formerly of Boston; Mar. 10. He was the retired chairman and CEO of Fabreeka International near Boston. He also served as president of the Hartford Jai Alai and was a former executive vice president of World Jai Alai and chairman of Republic Pipe & Electric Supply Corp. During World War II he served in the Army Air Corps, from which he was discharged with the rank of lieutenant. In 1979 he was the recipient of the State of Israel City of Peace Award for his service to Israel. His many memberships and community service included positions as trustee of the Life at Hebrew Rehabilitation Center (now SeniorLife), overseer at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital, board member of the Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly, and board member of Jewish Family and Children's Services. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; a daughter; a son; a granddaughter; and a sister.

Lawrence W. Hall '42, of Stratford, Conn.; Feb. 19, from a defective heart valve. He had an extensive career in advertising with Manville Corp. in both New York City and Denver, before retiring in 1983. During World War II he served in the U.S. Navy. He enjoyed bowling, tennis, and reading. He is survived by his wife, Myrtie, 313 B Blackhawk Ln., Stratford 06614; a daughter; three sons; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Moultrie Patten Jr. '42, of Beaverton, Ore.; Mar. 18, of pneumonia. He was a stage and screen actor best known for his role as Walt the trapper on *Northern Exposure* during the 1990s. He performed in vaudeville, on Broadway, and with regional theater companies across the country. He continued to perform in commercials well into his 80s. During World War II he served in the U.S. Army and was awarded the Silver Star. He enjoyed playing piano in jazz clubs, and in 1997 recorded a CD of his favorite songs. He is survived by a daughter, a son, a sister, and his former wife, Teena.

George C. Rose '42, of El Paso, Tex.; Feb. 17. He worked at Raytheon Co. in Burlington, Mass. From 1969 to 1983 he held various managerial positions with Raytheon in Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Jordan, returning to El Paso in 1983 to serve as training manager for Raytheon's air defense program until his retirement in 1986. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the Korean War. He was a member of the Society of Logistics Engineers and Sigma Nu. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; a daughter; a granddaughter; a brother; and several nieces and nephews.

Albert E. Beachen Jr. '43, '49 AM, of Cranston, R.I.; Mar. 7. He taught English, math, and social studies in the East Providence school system for 30 years. He was a member of the Brown wrestling team, and from 1947 to 1949 coached wrestling at Hope High School in Providence. During World War II he served in the U.S. Army. He was instrumental in establishing the Warwick Assoc. for Children with Learning Disabilities and served as warden and Sunday school teacher at St. Mark's Church in Riverside, R.I.; he also sang in the choir at St. David's Church in Cranston. He enjoyed sailing, golfing, bicycle riding, reading, and doing crossword puzzles. He is survived by four daughters, three granddaughters, several nieces and nephews, and a brother, **Samuel Beachen** '49.

Franklin B. Floyd '43, of Hunting Valley, Ohio; Jan. 29. He was a stockbroker for Curtis House and Co. in Cleveland until his retirement in the early 1970s. During World War II he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps. After retiring, he was actively involved in wildlife and environmental causes and received several awards for his efforts. He was a member of the Winous Point Marsh Conservancy in Port Clinton, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; five children; 15 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Milton L. Isserlis '43, of Provincetown, Mass.; Apr. 3, of a stroke. He was an attorney in Provincetown until his retirement in 2004. During World War II he served in the U.S. Air Force. He was a member of the Lions Club of Provincetown and the Provincetown Art Assoc. and Museum. In 1940 and 1941 he was named the Collegiate Table Tennis Champion. He enjoyed tennis, table tennis, golf, and the *New York Times* Sunday puzzle. He is survived by his wife, Ruth; a daughter, **Janet Isserlis** '91 AM; a son; three grandchildren; a sister; and two nephews.

Peter L. Leeb '43, of Saratoga, Calif.; Feb. 11. He was a retired employee of AFCO Electronics in Oakland, Calif. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and the Korean War and was discharged with the rank of captain. At Brown, he was captain of the varsity golf team and a member of Psi Upsilon. He is survived by a daughter, a son, and three grandchildren.

Gerald E. Myers '44, '49 AM, of New London, Conn.; Feb. 11, of multiple myeloma. He taught philosophy at Smith College, Williams College, Kenyon College, and Long Island Univ. before becoming a professor of philosophy at Queens College in 1967. A scholarly expert on William James, he wrote *Self: An Introduction to Philosophical Psychology* (1969) and *William James: His Life and Thought* (1987), and edited the Library of America edition of James's writings. In his second career he organized programs for the American Dance Festival and wrote such books as *Who's Not Afraid of Martha Graham?* (2008). He is survived by his wife, Martha; a son; three grandchildren; and a brother.

Alfred F. Varone '44, of Pompano Beach, Fla. and Newport, R.I.; Jan. 14. He was a retired real estate broker and a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps.

Roberta Copeland Watson '44, of St. Peters, Pa.; Mar. 25. She worked as a bookkeeper for a local school and with her husband at his Watson Bank Equipment and Signage Company. She was a volunteer with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America, taught Sunday school, and helped her husband coach softball and baseball youth teams. She enjoyed reading, listening to classical music, gardening, and sailing. She is survived by a daughter, a son, six grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and a sister.

Frances Weeden Gibson '45, of Farmington Hills, Mich., formerly of New York City; Mar. 28. She worked as an engineer at Pratt & Whitney before moving to the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) as the engineering editor of their quarterly journal. In 1999, SAE recognized her as the first woman to have been a member for 50 years. While in Farmington Hills, she consulted and was an engineering editor for the American Concrete Institute. From 1967 to 1972 she served as a Brown trustee and was instrumental in the founding of its medical school. She was a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers, Society of Technical Writers and Editors, American Assoc. of Univ. Women, the Brown Club of New York, and Sigma Xi. Phi Beta Kappa. She is survived by three stepchildren and a cousin, **Lynn M. Pease** '46.

Otis H. Hastings '46, of Avon, Ohio; Jan. 14, of sepsis shock. He was chairman and CEO of Thermion Technologies Inc. in Avon. He served in the U.S. Naval Air Corps. He held several patents and was a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the American Institute of Management, and the American Legion. He enjoyed swimming and skeet shooting. He is survived by his wife, June, 33897 Maple Ridge Blvd., Avon 44011; a son; and a grandson.

Robert S. Messinger '46, of Wakefield, R.I.; Mar. 22. He was the president of C.D. Paige Co. in East Providence and former owner of R.S. Messinger Insurance Agency in Barrington, R.I. He served in the U.S. Navy. He was a past member of the R.I. Country Club and the Squantum Assoc. He enjoyed boating, skiing, and golfing. He is survived by a son, two daughters, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Theodore W. Moller Jr. '46, of Newtown Sq., Pa.; Apr. 16. He retired as an engineer for General Electric in 1987 to work as chief engineer and consultant for ITA, a NASA-associated aeronautics firm. For the past 20 years he also volunteered for the talking-book repair project sponsored by GE Elfuns. He served in the U.S. Navy. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; three daughters; seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and a sister.

Lois Mountain Painchaud '46, of Crosby, Tex.; Jan. 19. She worked with NASA during the early years of the space program and later as a bookkeeper for Sacred Heart

Catholic School in Crosby. She was a member of the Catholic Daughters of America, the American Assoc. of Univ. Women, the League of Women Voters, and Sigma Xi. She is survived by a daughter, two sons, four grandchildren, and a brother.

Foula Dimopoulos Peterson '46, of Haverhill, Mass.; Feb. 23. She was a homemaker and substitute teacher for the Haverhill school system. She volunteered with numerous civic organizations and was a member of the Women's City Club of Haverhill, Haverhill Historical Society, Philoptochos Society Elpis, the Haverhill College Club, and the Haverhill Public Library. She enjoyed reading and is survived by two sons, five grandchildren, and a sister, **Olivia Dimopoulos Tommaney** '51.

Frances Richardson Brautigam '47, of Kensington, Conn.; Mar. 4. She taught French at Punahou School in Hawaii until 1951, when she returned to Connecticut to marry, be a homemaker, and finally return to teaching French and English at Mooreland Hill School in Kensington for 15 years. She was active with the American Assoc. of Univ. Women for nearly 60 years. She was also active with the YWCA of New Britain, where she served on the board of directors and board of trustees and was recognized as its 1996 Outstanding Volunteer of the Year; in 2007 she was Special Honoree at their Women in Leadership event. She also volunteered at the New Britain Museum of American Art, the Hartford Stage Company, and the Long Wharf Theater in New Haven. She was a member of the Unitarian Universalist Society of New Britain and Hartford. She is survived by her husband, Lawrence; a daughter; two sons; three grandchildren; and a brother.

John F. Leahy '47, of West Warwick, R.I.; Apr. 19. He was a hub and die cutter for Crown Stamp & Die Co. in Providence until his retirement in 2006. He was a member of the Coventry Senior Golf League, an honorary life member and past ruler of the Coventry/West Greenwich Elks Lodge #2285, and a trustee of the Emblem Club #436. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; a daughter; three sons; and seven grandchildren.

Sigmund V. Baszkowski '48 of Virginia Beach, Va.; Oct. 14. He worked for more than 40 years at Airco Inc. in N.J. and most recently for the Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Dept. as a Starter/Marshal at Kempsville Greens Golf Course. During World War II

{ Farewell }

IRVING R. LEVINE '44

He Brought Economics Home

IN AUGUST OF 1971, PRESIDENT NIXON ANNOUNCED WAGE AND price controls to fight spiraling inflation and officially took the U.S. dollar off the gold standard. Up until this time, network news covered the economy mainly by recording the ups and downs of the stock market. It was thought that complicated concepts like the consumer price index and Keynesian economic theory couldn't be translated into exciting visuals for the TV audience.

Irving R. Levine would come to prove this assumption wrong. As the first-ever network news correspondent focusing full-time on the economy, he found visually compelling ways of relaying dry statistics and helped Americans to understand the connection between technical economic terms and their own pocketbooks.

"Irving R. Levine was a global figure in the formative years of television news, and his legacy is with us every day," NBC News, where he worked for over three decades, said in a statement after Levine's death from prostate cancer at age 86 this March in Washington, D.C. In 2000, the BAM named Levine one of the 100 most influential Brown alumni of the twentieth century.

Levine was known as much for the style as the substance of his broadcasts. Though it had long gone out of fashion, he always wore a bow tie on-air. His delivery was slow and frequently dry, befitting the serious nature of the subject he covered. He also insisted on signing off as "Irving R. Levine," always including his middle initial. At one point, NBC producers asked him

to leave out the initial so they could shorten the broadcast. Levine reportedly told them "No, I'd rather drop the B in NBC."

Levine began his journalism career writing obituaries for the *Providence Journal-Bulletin*. In the early 1950s, he covered the Korean War for NBC and the old International News Service. He went on to score a coup in 1955 when he became the only U.S. television correspondent with a visa to work in the Soviet Union. He spent much of the 1960s in Europe and then returned to the United States to cover the economy.

Up until this time, the networks eschewed economic news cov-

erage because it didn't lend itself to visual images. Levine changed this, "focusing," as he wrote in a 1971 article in *TV Guide*, "on illustrative examples of problems." He reported on the significance of rises in the consumer price index by covering one individual family's struggle to make ends meet. To illustrate trends in foreign investment, he filmed a Japanese-owned soy sauce factory in the U.S. heartland. All commonplace today, but groundbreaking when Levine did it.

After retiring from NBC in 1995, Levine became dean of the College of International Studies at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida. Until the very end, he continued to wear his bow tie.

His is survived by his wife, Nancy, three children, and three grandchildren.

—LAWRENCE GOODMAN



Irving R. Levine in Red Square in 1960.

he served in the U.S. Navy. He was one of the founding members of the Green Brook (N.J.) Golf Assoc., and a member of the Norfolk (Va.) chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. He is survived by a daughter, Michelle Keiser, 163 Forsythia Dr. N. Levittown, Pa., 19056; two sons; a stepdaughter; a grandson; four step-grandchildren; and a brother.

Milton Crowther '48, of Salisbury, N.C.; Mar. 27. He was a research chemist for National Starch & Chemical Co. in Salisbury for 30

years. He served in the U.S. Army. He was a member of the American Chemical Society, Sigma Xi, and the Bethel Lutheran Church, where he served as a Sunday school teacher and treasurer. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, reading and raising exotic birds. He is survived by his wife, Louise; two sons; a stepson; six grandchildren; and three sisters.

James H. Farrell '48, '49 ScM, of Lexington, Mass.; Feb. 25. He was a civil engineer at several companies before cofounding Conesco and

JBF Scientific in Burlington, Mass. He was vice president for the House of Bianchi in Boston and was active with the Boston Fencing Club. He is survived by his wife, Anita; a daughter; two sons; and a granddaughter.

Achshah Shedakar Hinckley '48, of Charlton, Mass.; Mar. 21, of pancreatic cancer. She was a retired Worcester, Mass., schoolteacher. She was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Ware, Mass., where she served on the vestry and was involved with the Parish

Altar Guild. She was president of the Social Science Club of Ware, president of the Altar Guild of the Diocese of Western Mass., treasurer of Province One Altar Guild, and director of the National Altar Guild. She enjoyed skiing, playing bridge, knitting, doing needlepoint, and sewing. She is survived by her husband, **John Campbell** '48; three sons, including **Charles Hinckley** '73; a daughter; and seven grandchildren.

Melissa Tinker Howland '48, of West Tisbury, Mass.; Feb. 26, from complications of Alzheimer's. She was a homemaker. She is survived by her husband, **John A. Howland** '48.

Lucie Guillemette Webb '48, of Naples, Fla.; Apr. 15. She was a homemaker and community volunteer. She operated a cocker spaniel kennel and served as a Cub Scout den mother in Philadelphia. She also taught religious education in Coral Springs and was a legal secretary in Naples. She enjoyed sewing, doing craftwork, and following all kinds of sports, especially the Boston Red Sox. She is survived by her husband, **Arthur** '48; three daughters; two sons; 16 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; a sister; and a brother.

Susan Seligman Cohn '49, of South Orange, N.J.; Mar. 29. She was an advocate for the disabled after suffering, at the age of 35, a stroke that left her a hemiplegic. She was a litigant in both the U.S. Supreme Court and the N.J. Supreme Court and lectured at the Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation in West Orange, N.J. She published the instruction book *Do It One-Handed*. She enjoyed baking for family and friends and reading about the history of England. She is survived by two daughters, a son, and two grandchildren.

Robert B. Dalton '49, of Seminole, Fla., formerly of St. Petersburg, Fla.; Feb. 2. He retired from the Dwight E. McCormick Insurance Agency, which he partly owned. During World War II he served in the U.S. Air Force. He was a volunteer with the Redington Beach (Fla.) Fire Dept., and the Boy Scouts of America. He was a coach in the Gulf Beaches Little League and a member of the Kiwanis Club of Gulf Beaches, the Seminole Kiwanis Club, and the Holiday Isles Improvement Assoc. He enjoyed boating and fishing. He is survived by his wife and daughter.

Walter H. Fish Jr. '49, of Hyannis, Mass.; Apr.

1. He started his career pumping gas at Arrow Oil Co. and retired as the company president in 1978. During World War II he served in the U.S. Army. He served on many community committees and boards, including the Hyannis Rotary Club, Sentry Bank, the YMCA of Cape Cod, and the Cape Cod Hospital finance committee. He was a member of the Hyannisport Golf Club, the Hyannis Yacht Club and the Brown Club of Cape Cod. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; two daughters; two nieces; and six nephews.

Virginia Chivers Greis '49, of Holden, Mass.; Apr. 10, after a long illness. She was the cofounder and director of Kinefac Corp. in Worcester, Mass. She was a member of the Worcester Art Museum, the Epworth United Methodist Church, and the Holden Hills Country Club. She is survived by her husband, **Howard** '48; four children, including **Noel Greis Greenside** '72 and **Frederick E. Greis** '76; seven grandchildren; and a sister.

Walter L. McArthur '49, of Tulare, Calif., formerly of Visalia, Calif.; Jan. 25, of a heart attack. He was an attorney in Visalia for more than 30 years. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. He is survived by his wife, Doris; three daughters; two sons; and a brother.

Charles H. Newton '49, of Warwick and Rumford, R.I.; Mar. 26. He was a retired French teacher for the Warwick School Department. During World War II he served in the U.S. Army. He was a Mason and member of Shawomet Baptist Church in Warwick. He enjoyed reading and cooking. He is survived by a son, two daughters, and three grandchildren.

William F. O'Brien '49, of Palm Harbor, Fla., formerly of Greenwich, Conn.; Mar. 12. He held various executive positions at IBM until his retirement. During World War II he served in the U.S. Navy. He enjoyed sailing and traveling. He is survived by a daughter, three sons, four grandchildren, and a sister.

Marian Raab Rooney '49, of Greensboro, N.C.; Jan. 28. She is survived by a daughter, a son, two grandchildren, and a sister, **Jane R. Campbell** '52.

Robert F. Rougvie '49, of New Fairfield, Conn.; Mar. 24. He was a retired bridge and building supervisor for Metro-North Commuter Railroad. He served in the U.S. Army

Air Corps. At Brown he was a member of the varsity football team and after graduation continued to play football for several years with the R.I. Bristol Colts. After moving to New Fairfield, he served as an active member and secretary of the New Fairfield volunteer fire dept., president of the New Fairfield Sparklers (a drum and bugle corps), and coach of the New Fairfield High School freshman football team. He was a former choir member of United Baptist Church and commander of Robert Williams Post #35, American Legion. He is survived by a daughter, a son, and a niece.

Annetta Hubon Weinhardt '49, of New Gloucester, Me.; Mar. 23. She worked for Maine Preservation, which is dedicated to preserving the state's architectural heritage, and served as a docent for the Portland Museum of Art. She had a lifelong interest in botanical illustration and architectural preservation. She is survived by a daughter; two sons; three grandsons; a sister, **Priscilla H. McCarty** '47; a niece; and two nephews.

1950s

Richard W. Arnold Jr. '50, of Redding, Conn.; Mar. 7. He was a retired vice president of AT&T in New York City. He was an active volunteer at the Fairfield Regional Planning Assoc., the United Way, Meals on Wheels, the Stamford Senior Men's Assoc., and the AARP Tax Aid Program. He enjoyed gardening. He is survived by his wife, **Arleen Bamberg Arnold** '50; a son; and a daughter, **Kathryn Cawley** '75.

Robert S. Barrows '50, of Pawtucket, R.I.; Jan. 27. He was an agent for the John Hancock Insurance Co. in Woonsocket, R.I., until his retirement in 1988. During World War II, in which he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a B-52 navigator, he was shot down and held as a POW in a German camp. He was a member of the Christian Science Church in Providence and enjoyed the arts.

Walter J. Brown '50, of Asheville, N.C., formerly of Athens and Augusta, Ga.; Apr. 1. He was a professor of medicine at the Medical College of Georgia, working with their cardiovascular research program. In 1968 he became associate director of the University Health Service at the Univ. of Georgia. He continued his research and teaching at the Medical College while teaching pharmacotherapeutics at the Univ. of Georgia until his retirement in 1987. During World War II he

served in the U.S. Army. After retiring, he continued as clinical professor of medicine at the Medical College and as a consultant to the Northeast Georgia Health District's hypertension clinic. He was also medical director for Home Health Care at St. Mary's Hospital in Athens. He was a member of several professional organizations, research teams, and committees, including the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society and the Sigma Xi Research Society. He was the author of more than 60 research studies published in national and international journals. He was active in Learning in Retirement in Athens and enjoyed working on his farm. He is survived by his wife, Faith; three sons; six grandchildren; and a brother.

Peter R. Cruise '50, of Providence; Mar. 3. He was a partner at Kent, Cruise & Partners, an architectural engineering firm in Providence responsible for developing and designing many notable Rhode Island and New England buildings, including the R.I. School for the Deaf, the R.I. Department of Health Laboratory, the Naval War College, and the U.S. Naval Justice School. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. He is survived by two sons and three grandchildren.

Clayton T. Dietz '50, of Severna Park, Md.; Mar. 26. He retired from a long career in commercial banking in 1989 to become a consultant to the United Nations, the Bank for International Reconstruction and Development, and the World Bank. While acting as vice president and chief general manager of the First National Bank of Denver's international division and as director of a Denver multilingual school for foreign business students, he accepted the Presidential "E" Award for excellence in the promotion of international activities. He cowrote a text for Central Bank administrators and examiners that was translated into various languages and was a lecturer at World Bank seminars for foreign bankers. He was a member of the Colorado, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C., district export councils of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce and participated in senior executive diplomat seminars at the U.S. Dept. of State. He volunteered as a park ranger at Sandy Point (Md.) State Park, and was a member of several country and golf clubs, as well as the Severna River Swim Club. He is survived by a daughter, a son, and four grandchildren.

Mary Tomlinson Kester '50, of Newtown,

Pa.; Feb. 16, of Parkinson's. She was a retired librarian. She was employed as an assistant librarian at Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania until 1954. After raising a family, she returned as a cataloger for 11 years for the Bucks County Free Library in Doylestown, Pa., until retiring in 1991 as the librarian of the Village Library of Wrightstown, Pa. She was a Quaker, active with Newtown Friends Meeting, and a member of the American Assoc. of University Women. She is survived by her husband, H. Paul Kester; four daughters; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Anthony P. Travisono '50, of Jamestown, R.I.; Apr. 4. He was a caseworker supervisor for Big Brothers of R.I., a R.I. state social worker, a superintendent of the R.I. Training School, and a director of the R.I. Dept. of Social Welfare. He was the first director of the R.I. Dept. of Corrections and retired in 1991 as the executive director of the American Correctional Assoc. (ACA). The ACA honored him with the E.R. Cass Distinguished Service award. During World War II he served in the U.S. Naval Air Corps. At Brown he was a member of the varsity football and wrestling teams, and in 1956 was awarded the Brown Achievement Award of the class of 1950. In retirement he continued to serve as an international consultant for juvenile delinquency and adult prison problems. He taught and lectured at Salve Regina Univ. (R.I.), as well as throughout the U.S. and in several foreign countries. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus 1058 Assembly, American Legion Post #22, and St. Mark's Church, where he served as Eucharistic minister and secretary. He enjoyed golfing, woodworking, gardening, and traveling. He is survived by his wife, Diana; two daughters; three sons, including **Peter** '76; seven grandchildren; and a brother.

Joseph G. Turner '50, of Narragansett, R.I., formerly of Vernon, Conn.; Apr. 13. He was a retired engineer for Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford, Conn. In retirement he helped coordinate the volunteer income tax program in Vernon. He coached youth baseball and volunteered with the Boy Scouts of America. He enjoyed skiing and spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife, Jane; three daughters; three sons; 14 grandchildren; and two sisters.

Sally Gates Cook '51, of Wellesley Hills, Mass., and Naples, Fla.; Apr. 20. She worked as an editor for D.C. Heath in Boston and

then as a library media specialist for Wellesley public schools. She was captain of the Pembroke badminton team and became a regionally ranked tennis player, winning the New England Women's Senior Championship. She was an avid gardener who received the Kathryn S. Taylor award for private gardens and the 1991 New England Wildflower Garden of the Year award. She was also a trustee of the New England Wildflower Society and a volunteer for the society's Garden in the Woods in Framingham. She was a member of the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church, the Wellesley Tennis Assoc., and the Wellesley Country Club. She is survived by her husband, Paul; a son, **David G. Cook** '79; a daughter, six grandchildren; and a niece.

Ezra C. Creswell '51, of Brunswick, Me.; Feb. 28. He was an industrial engineer at Bath Iron Works until his retirement in 1993. He previously worked in the industrial engineering department of Quincy (Mass.) shipyard. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps. At Brown he was a member of the track and basketball teams. In 2002, he was inducted into the Braintree High School Sports Hall of Fame for his accomplishments with the school's track, basketball, and football teams. In retirement he volunteered as a track official at Bowdoin College. He enjoyed fishing and tai chi. He is survived by his wife, Joan, two daughters, three sons, six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and a sister.

Tina Sammartino '51, of Greenville, R.I.; Mar. 13, of Parkinson's. She was a retired teacher for the Providence public school system. She is survived by her brother, **Alexander Sammartino** '55, 40 East 89th St., New York City 10128.

Charles R. Syer Jr. '51, of Mashpee, Mass.; Mar. 19. He was a retired insurance underwriter. During World War II he served in the U.S. Navy. He enjoyed photography, reading, and gardening. He is survived by his wife, Marcia; two sons; and four grandchildren.

George A. Tingley '51, of Warwick, R.I.; Mar. 5, of Parkinson's. He was the manager of operations research at Swissair in Zurich, and served a three-year term as president of the Airline Group of the International Federation of Operational Research Societies (AGI-FORS). He retired from Swissair and AGI-FORS in 1991. He served in the U.S. Naval Reserves, retiring with the rank of lieutenant.

He enjoyed singing with St. Andrew's Anglican Church choir in Zurich and barbershop quartet singing with the SPEBSQSA. He is survived by his wife, Katharina; a daughter; a granddaughter; and a sister.

Robert W. Turcotte '51, of Bloomfield, Conn.; Feb. 27. He was a development officer at Brown; an assistant headmaster at St. George's Boys' School in Newport, R.I.; an assistant to the president of UConn; a vice president of Bates College; and a career counselor. He is survived by his wife, Alice; three daughters; five grandchildren; and a brother.

Roberta Van Geyt Gage '52, of Durham, N.C.; Feb. 24. She was a homemaker and an active member of the Durham Women's Bible Study Fellowship. She enjoyed playing golf and tennis. She is survived by her husband, Richard; a daughter; two sons, including **Richard Jr.** '76; and five grandchildren.

Mary Littleton Sistare '52, of Brunswick, Me., formerly of Concord, Mass.; Feb. 28. She was a librarian at Concord Public Library and later at Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick. She was a literacy volunteer and conducted tours for the Joshua Chamberlain and Skolfield Houses in Brunswick. She was on the board of the Pejepscot Historical Society and a member of the First Parish Church of Brunswick. She is survived by two daughters, three sons, 11 grandchildren, and two brothers.

Roy O. Stratton Jr. '52, of Schenectady, N.Y.; Mar. 9. He was a marketing executive for the General Electric Co. in Schenectady until his retirement in 1988. During his time at GE, he worked with Walt Disney to develop GE's New York World's Fair Pavilion. In retirement he served as a board member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady and the Northeast Parent & Child Society. He was chairman of Brown's National Alumni Schools Program and fire commissioner in the Niskayuna Fire District #1. His memberships included the Brown Club of New York, the Mohawk Golf Club, the GE Elfun Society, the GE Quarter Century Club, the Schenectady County Historical Society, the Friends of the Schenectady Museum, and Sigma Nu. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; three daughters, including **Sarah Genton** '78, **Pamela Hutchinson** '75 and her husband, **Alexander Hutchinson** '75; five grandchildren, including **Rebecca Hutchinson** '03 and **Craig Hutchinson** '08; and two stepsisters.

Spero G. Karol '53, of Seekonk, Mass.; Apr. 15. He was a production control manager for Tower Manufacturing Corp. in Providence until his retirement in 1989. During World War II he served in the U.S. Army. He was an active member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, where he served on the building, library, and iconostasion committees and as the Sunday school superintendent. The church honored him with the first annual Annunciation Laity Award in February 2009. He is survived by two daughters, including **Marilyn Pelosi** '76 and her husband, **Richard Pelosi** '75; four grandchildren; a sister; and several nieces and nephews.

Anne Matthews '54, of Scranton, Pa.; Apr. 1. She was the retired executive director of the Indian Hills Council of Girls Scouts of the United States of America. She is survived by two brothers and two nieces.

Bruce H. Taylor '54, of Leesburg, Va.; Jan. 26. He was a retired electronics engineer for the CIA and served in the U.S. Air Force. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; two daughters; two grandchildren; and a sister.

Charles M. Whitney '54, of Lakeville, Mass.; July 30, 2007, of brain cancer. He owned and operated school buses in Middleboro, Mass., and Lakeville. He was past president of the Mass. School Bus Contractors Assoc., the Middleboro and Lakeville Lions Clubs, and the Lakeville Development Corp. He was a member of the Mayflower Lodge AF and AM in Middleboro, the Central Congregational Church of Middleboro, and the National School Transportation Assoc., which honored him with a National Golden Merit Award for outstanding service. He enjoyed woodworking, skiing, golfing, and traveling. He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline; three daughters; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a brother.

Harriet Nichols Allen '55, of Knoxville, Tenn.; Mar. 12. She taught drama and speech courses at Mount Mercy College in Pittsburgh in the 1970s and at the Univ. of Tennessee Knoxville in the 1990s. She directed plays at the NYS Theatre Institute in Troy and appeared at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and on Broadway. She is survived by a sister, an aunt, an uncle, and several nieces and nephews.

John K. Lyons '55, of West Warwick, R.I.; Jan. 5. He worked as an assistant treasurer and tax manager at Textron Inc. for 32 years. He volunteered as an accountant for the AARP and SCORE. He is survived by his wife, Ann; a daughter; three grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; a sister; and two nephews.

Ralph E. Hagan '56, of Richmond, Va.; Jan. 11, of heart disease. He was a retired neurosurgeon. He served in the U.S. Army. He enjoyed gardening and golfing, and is survived by his wife, Feroza, 19 West Runswick Dr., Richmond 23238; a son; four daughters; and two grandchildren.

Guy D. Hughes '56, of Milton, Mass.; Apr. 15. He was the retired varsity baseball coach and chairman of the English department at Milton Academy. He was also a talented sculptor and owner of the Coppershed Gallery in Warren, Me. During the Korean War he served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He is survived by his wife, Mary Joe; two daughters, including **Claire Johnson** '94; two sons; and five grandchildren.

Philip H. Lutes '56, of Arlee, Mont.; Mar. 4, of cancer. He was a French instructor at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., and at the Univ. of Michigan. He retired in 1994. He enjoyed carpentry. He is survived by a daughter; two sons; three grandchildren; two sisters, including **Lora Moncrieff** '55; a brother, **Chris** '54; nephews **Chris Lutes Jr.** '83, **Jonathan Lutes** '91, **Justin Lutes** '93; and a niece, **Jessica Lutes** '88.

Cynthia Knight Mergentime '56, of Flemington, N.J.; Mar. 5. She was a homemaker, a master bridge player, and a former president of the Brown Glee Club. She is survived by two daughters, two sons, six grandchildren, and a brother, **W. Thomas Knight Jr.** '59.

Blair E. Blage '58, of Navarre, Fla., formerly of Indianapolis; Mar. 3. He was employed with Marsh & McLennan for 33 years, the last five as senior vice president and manager of its Indianapolis branch. He retired to Navarre in 1995. He served in the U.S. Army. He was involved with several community volunteer projects. He is survived by his wife, Jeanne; two daughters; a stepdaughter; 10 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a brother.

1960s

Virginia Perrotti Foley '60, of Pascoag, R.I.; Feb. 13. A former social worker and substitute teacher, she enjoyed singing in her church choir, playing the piano, and painting. She is survived by three daughters, a granddaughter, and a brother.

George H.W. Hayes II '60, of East Burke, Vt.; Feb. 26. He was a lawyer in his family's practice, Hayes Ledoux Whipple King in Ipswich, Mass., until he retired to Vermont in 1987. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves and was a member of Delta Upsilon. He is survived by a brother.

Marie A. Duranleau '62, of Little Compton, R.I.; Feb. 2. She is survived by a brother, a niece, and a nephew.

Ronald G. Santa '63, of Middletown, R.I.; Mar. 3. He was a retired electrical engineer. He is survived by his wife, Suzanne; three sons; and four grandchildren.

Barry L. Langdon '64, of Amherst, Mass.; Mar. 1, after a long illness. He had a private family counseling practice. He led several local acting workshops and enjoyed writing and directing plays. He also enjoyed sailing at Boothbay Harbor, Me. He is survived by a son and a brother.

William N. Bancroft Jr. '67, of Chappaqua, N.Y.; Mar. 6, from complications of Alzheimer's. He worked for IBM for 27 years before retiring in 1994. He served in the U.S. Army in Africa as a cartographer. He enjoyed sports, both as a competitor and a spectator, as well as reading and traveling. He is survived by a daughter, a son, three grandchildren, and a sister.

1970s

Michael T. Carroll '74, of Annandale, Va., formerly of Memphis; Mar. 6, 2008, of cancer. He is survived by his wife, Kathy, and a daughter.

David C. Radovsky '76, of Sharon, Mass.; Nov. 17, of cancer. He practiced neurology at Sturdy Memorial Hospital in Attleboro, Mass., until 1991. He enjoyed classical music, opera, and nature. He is survived by Susanne Osberg; his mother; a daughter; two sons; two sisters, including **Robin Phillips** '77 and her husband, **William Phillips** '74; and a brother.

James T. Potter '77, of Pawtucket, R.I.; Feb. 28, of cancer. He was an actuary for Fecteau Benefits Group in East Providence. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed tennis, poetry, music, and books. He is survived by his parents and stepparents, Fran and **William Potter** '54, 320 Harbor Dr., Venice, Fla. 34285, and Karl and Heather Forward; his companion, Elizabeth; a daughter; two sons; a granddaughter; and a brother.

William B. Hildebrand '79, of Ridgefield, Conn.; Mar. 19. He was an attorney with Thomas M. Bona P.C. in White Plains, N.Y. He was active in his Ridgefield community. He is survived by his parents, a daughter, a son, a sister, two brothers, and his former wife, Krista Willett.

1980s

Kathleen A. Kelly '81, of New York City; Feb. 20. She was a vice president at Lazard Freres & Co. in New York City. She is survived by her husband, Peter Pesek; her mother; and four brothers.

1990s

Alexander M. Miquel '94, of Tampa, Fla.; Sept. 9. He is survived by his parents and several family members.

GS

Edward J. Bair '49 PhD, of Bloomington, Ind.; Nov. 10, from non-Hodgkins lymphoma. He was a chemistry professor at Indiana Univ. until his retirement in 1989. He served for 15 years as a member of the editorial board for the *Journal of Photochemistry* and was a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Physical Society, and Sigma Xi. He published more than 50 professional papers as well as a book, *Connecting the Dots to Future Electric Power*. He was a pilot and enjoyed forestry management projects. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; a brother; a nephew; and four nieces.

Richard A. Valentin '61 ScM, '65 PhD, of Western Springs, Ill.; June 10, 2008. He was a retired mechanical engineer for Argonne National Laboratory. He is survived by his wife, **Anne Youngdahl Valentin** '62 AM.

Phillip A. Neher '66 PhD, of Philomath, Ore.; Mar. 23. He was a professor emeritus at the Univ. of British Columbia. He taught under-

graduate and graduate economic courses, wrote two textbooks, and cowrote another three. He published numerous articles and book reviews in Canadian, American, British, and Australian professional journals. With his colleagues in the UBC Natural Resources Study Group, he developed a new model for sustainable fisheries that has been implemented in many countries. He retired in 1997, but maintained an office at Oregon State Univ. and continued to stay professionally active. He is survived by his wife, Judith; a daughter; a son; and three grandchildren.

Mary Cone Barrie '69 MAT, of Toronto, Canada; Feb. 18, of lung cancer. She was the director of the School of Continuing Studies at the Univ. of Toronto from 1994 until her retirement in 2005. She earlier taught history at the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Montreal and at the private girls school The Study. In the 1980s she worked at Deloitte & Touche, where she helped acquaint staff with personal computers. She is survived by her husband, Andy; a daughter; a sister; and a brother.

Robert T. Baynes '93 ScM, of Portsmouth, R.I.; Apr. 7, of ALS. He was an assistant state court administrator for the R.I. Supreme Court. He was a member of the United Congregational Church of Middletown. He is survived by his wife, Doris; his father; two sisters; and a brother.

Faculty

Robert G. Warnock, of Providence; Mar. 7, of complications of Alzheimer's. He was professor emeritus of German studies. He taught German literature and language at the Univ. of Virginia and Stanford before arriving at Brown. From 1964 to 1996, he taught German studies at the University and taught Yiddish to Brown students and at the Jewish Community Center in Providence. He published several articles and was a member of the American Assoc. of Professors of Yiddish, the Modern Language Assoc., the Medieval Academy of America, and the International Arthurian Society. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was vice president of the NAACP in Charlottesville, Va., from 1964 to 1966. He is survived by his wife, **Rita Wilhelm Warnock** '78; two sons; two daughters, including **Sigrid Sindel** '94; five grandchildren; and a sister. **B**

Pin Pals

Before class ball caps, alumni wore reunion badges.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIK GOULD

TEXT BY LAWRENCE GOODMAN

T

ODAY, WHEN ALUMNI dress for the Commencement march, many recent grads wear shorts and T-shirts, and even older Brunonians and Pembrokers sport unisex ball caps emblazoned with their graduation year. It wasn't always so informal.

Just a decade ago, class tam-o'-shanters and Panama hats dotted the parade route. And in the early twentieth century, alumni pinned tailor-made badges and medallions to their lapels. The pin with the bear cub shown here is from the class of 1908; the other is from the class of 1918. In the University Archives are several of these pins—some made of brass and enamel. One dangles tiny animal charms: a terrier, an elephant, and an Afghan hound.

Raymond Butti, of the John Hay Library, says the archives have no record of the pins' precise use or provenance. He suspects they came in "gift boxes" of memorabilia donated by alumni. Although the contents have been catalogued and the librarians certainly know where to locate the items, their use remains a bit of a mystery.

Can you help? Perhaps you have a similar pin in an old jewelry box—do you know when or why it was worn? Brown archivists would welcome the information, and we at the BAM would love to solve the mystery.

Send a note to "Finally" at the address on page 52 or an e-mail to alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

B

